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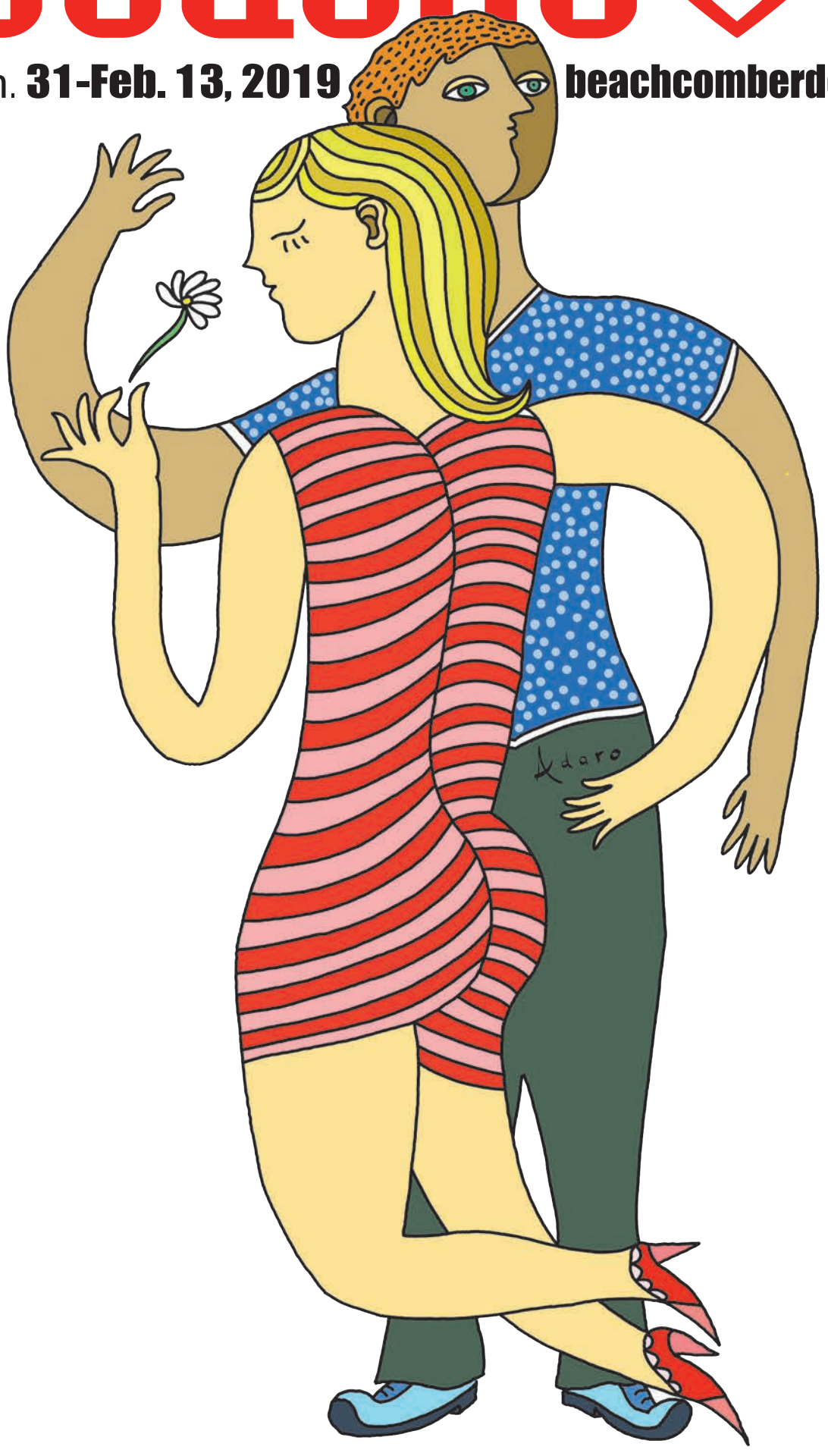

Horrorscopes

Charles Morgan

Live Music

Carl Hiaasen

Valentine's Advice from Dear Dawn

Blacksmithing in Fort Walton Beach

Michael J Thomas Demystifies the Grammys

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Okaloosa Arts Alliance

DESTIN HISTORY & FISHING MUSEUM

On Our Cover:

Untitled Lovey + Sexy Piece

By Juan Francisco Adaro

AdaroArt.com

Opening Remarks

Love Rules, Hate Drools!!

For Valentine's Day, can we just take a day off from hate and negativity? In the spirit of love, I mean.

Okay, how about half a day? An hour?

Yeah, I see you shaking your head. Thanks for nothing.

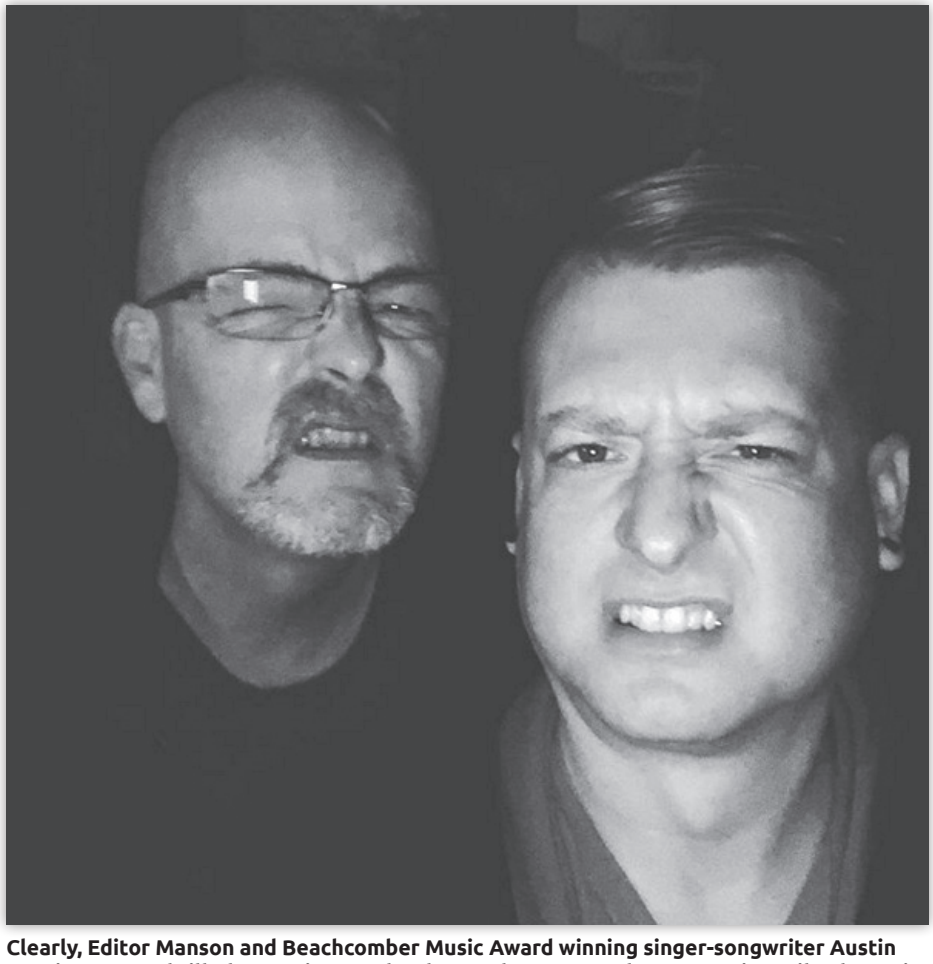
Let me try again. If you see something on social media that you disagree with, just move on without posting some mean-spirited rebuttal.

No? Then can you just omit all the profanitizing from your comments? Maybe be a shred kinder?

Really? You'd think I was asking you to give up your entire smartphone.

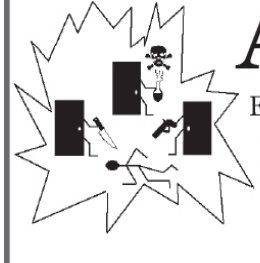
How about this? Maybe you could be nicer to people that work in the service industry (and leave reasonable tips)? And not throw what's left of your slushy drink at the panhandler on the corner? And not spoil the endings of movies that I'm not going to watch until they premiere on TNT two years from now?

Fine. I'm not going to ask you to make any more "sacrifices" in the name of kindness and decency. Valentine's shmalentine's! I hope you choke on your



Clearly, Editor Manson and Beachcomber Music Award winning singer-songwriter Austin Jennings were thrilled to run into each other at the recent Lake Street Dive-Mikaela Davis show in Pensacola.

Dinner Theater to *DIE* for!



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This Issue's Contributors

Michael J Thomas ("Destin's #1 *Billboard* Charting Artist Talks Music's Biggest Night") has released two full albums and two maxi-singles nationally. The latest, *Driven,* led the saxophonist and vocalist to sign a distribution deal for the project with Sony Music.

The lead radio single "Baby Coffee" charted at #1 on three national radio charts, including *Billboard* (four consecutive weeks!), *USA Today,* and *Smooth Jazz Top 20 with Allen Kepler.* Michael's music has been featured on Sirius XM's Watercolors, The Weather Channel, the Warner Bros. film *Contagion* starring Matt Damon and Laurence Fishburne, as well as radio stations across the globe. He has recorded with two-time Grammy® winning producer Paul Brown.

Michael is a current member of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, which votes on Grammy® nominations. You can see and hear him at his residency gig at Ruth's Chris Steak House in Destin Wednesdays through Saturdays "upon availability." Learn more at **michaeljthomas.net.**

Juan Francisco Adaro (Cover) was born in 1978 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. His passion for art began when he was old enough to pick up a pencil, and since then, he's won all sorts of awards and been featured on the *Beachcomber's* cover more times than we can remember. Visit his Santa Rosa Beach gallery and learn more about this remarkable artist at **www.adaroart.com.**

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Clay Jones (Cartoons) syndicates his cartoons daily to publications across the country. Clay was born in Fort Hood, Texas, and was raised in Louisiana, Illinois, California and Georgia. He currently lives in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Subscribe to the **Claytoonz** YouTube channel and watch Clay Jones create his masterpieces and demystify the whole cartooning thing.

Seagrove Beach resident **Nikki Hedrick** (The PauseandPlay.com Record Roundup) is a photographer and longtime *Beachcomber* contributor. She is the co-owner of 850 Music and Entertainment, and wears a few other hats, too. Nikki is currently gearing up for beach wedding season and wonders if anyone can own too many concert t-shirts.

Samantha Lambert (Beachcomberland Places) writes: "Very happy to be two years back in the Sunshine State! Enjoying traveling with my husband and spending a lot of time out in the fresh air at various events and festivals."

Dr. David C. Simmons (Movie Reviews) is a professor of Film Studies and Humanities at Northwest Florida State College. He received his Ph.D. in Humanities and Film Studies from Florida State University in 2005. He is also the faculty advisor of the NWFS Film Club and the NWFSC Gay-Straight Alliance.

David is currently writing several books, including two on nonviolence. In his spare time, he enjoys watching films, conducting choirs, singing with the Northwest Florida Symphony Chorale, and being an advocate for social justice.

Opening Remarks CONTINUED...

candy hearts, you jerk!! Also, they're not making candy hearts anymore, HA!

And this, friends, is what happens when I write the Opening Remarks before I've had my morning coffee.

Apologies,
Editor Manson

YOUR THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS

I really enjoyed Charles Morgan's column in the Jan. 17-30 edition ("Charles in Charge {of Everything}"). However, I am afraid he put his tongue in his cheek so hard that he may have done some permanent damage.

- Rebecca Williams

Too much tourism can be a very negative force, especially when the level of tourism is greater than the community and environment's ability to handle its impact. The community is affected by increased traffic, competition for resources (such as groceries), and higher prices (tourists will pay premiums). Favorite places you use to take for granted are now crowded with visitors.

The local residents will feel the effects of increased prices for services and consumer staples. Rents increase, and housing becomes out of reach for many. Land is gobbled up for commercial use, and many natural areas disappear. Taxes must increase to handle the pressure caused by the influx of visitors. Services that once were capable of handling a community must now be rebuilt or enlarged—more water, sewer, trash, police, fire stations, traffic lights, road maintenance, etc.

It's a vicious circle that will never end. Developers and businesses say, "We need more tourism for jobs and to sustain the economy…"—however, this mantra is a lie. Most jobs created by tourism are low paying, part-time and seasonal. In reality, the ability to handle the growth is never realized because we always need one more traffic light, one more fire station, more police protection, and more ordinances to control the growth.

The community becomes fragmented with so many new people coming and going—constant transience with groups of people having no interest in the community but seeing it only as a temporary pleasure.

The impact on the environment is subtle and at first unnoticeable. Natural habitats gradually disappear, and the wildlife goes with it. Trees are cut. Buildings and parking lots proliferate. The sewage increase can overburden the community, too.

Air pollution and noise increases due to more traffic. The litter on our beaches is a huge problem. How many plastic bottles, beer cans, cigarette butts, Styrofoam cups and abandoned paraphernalia are left behind?

The list goes on and on. It's a perpetual loop with no end. Someone will always say, "We need more tourism." Okay, but just realize the residents and environment will pay the final price.

- Robert thedestinblog, Destin

Talk About Making an Impact!

The mission of IMPACT 100 of Northwest Florida, Inc. is to financially support nonprofit organizations in Okaloosa and Walton counties. Created in 2012, IMPACT 100 of Northwest Florida has awarded $2.2 million in grants to local nonprofit organizations including five $102,800 grants in 2018.

IMPACT 100 of Northwest Florida is pleased to announce their 2019 Board of Directors.

Leading the organization as president is Amanda Gordon. Ms. Gordon received her law degree from the University of Florida, where she also obtained an undergraduate degree in Criminology. Her legal career has included work as a trial attorney for the Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, Networks and Technology Section in Washington, D.C., serving as a Special Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of Virginia, and as a law clerk for the Honorable Lacey A. Collier, United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida.

Upon moving to Okaloosa County, she pursued her passion for justice with the Office of the State Attorney as a special prosecutor handling violent crimes. Ms. Gordon joined IMPACT 100 NWF in 2012 and has served as a grant liaison and has chaired the Education and Environment Committees, assisting in the preservation of the natural resources of this area.

She has also served on the Board of Directors of the Junior League of the Emerald Coast, the Bench and Bar Professionalism Committee, and Safe Connections, which provides supervised visits and exchanges for children.

Other IMPACT 100 NWF Board of Directors include Cindy McCue (vice-president), Pauline Sotiri (secretary), Wendy McAdams Dorr (treasurer), Ginny Barr (founding member), Barbara Britt, Marty Broderick, Valerie Burrelle, Mary Pat Cedarleaf, Dr. Joyce Gillie Gossom, Mary Hemard, Cyndi Hyatt, Carol Merkle, Gayle Powers, Lisa Jo Spencer, Jo Stewart, Kim Sulipeck, Sandy Trammell and Connie Yarbro.

The organization is recruiting members to join IMPACT 100 NWF 2019 membership base. IMPACT 100 welcomes women 18 years or older to come to a membership event, meet the members, and learn how they can become a positive force for good in their local community.

For women between the ages of 21 and 39 who may not have the financial resources to join, IMPACT 100 NWF offers a NextGen Program that gives young women an opportunity to become members and engage with the community while learning the lessons of philanthropy. The program aims to empower these women to be ambassadors for a generation that is dedicated to giving and serving in Okaloosa and Walton counties.

NextGen members will receive a scholarship of $500 to be used in the first year of membership to help pay the $1,000 membership donation, followed by a scholarship of $250 to be used in the second year of membership. To apply for a NextGen scholarship, visit **www.impactnwf.org/nextgen-program/.**

The next membership event is scheduled for Sunday, **Feb. 24,** from 2 to 3:30 PM in Sandestin. Learn more at **www.impactnwf.org.**

- Valerie Burrelle

So Long, Jimmy the Fox! Hello, J.R.

Northwest Florida State College (NWF) unveiled a new mascot, J.R. (Jimmy Raider), between the women's and men's basketball games on January 12. J.R. made his debut during a scrimmage with mascots from across the area. Sadly, Jimmy the Fox sustained a career-ending injury during the game and J.R. arrived in his place to make the game-winning basket.

J.R. replaced Jimmy the Fox as a better representation of General Jimmy Doolittle, who led the squadron of B-25s on a daring raid to Japan as a response to the attack at Pearl Harbor—a feat for which he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. The significance of the mission, many believe, was a turning point in World War II. Those Raiders had trained at nearby Eglin Air Force Base.

"We are very proud of our new mascot," said NWF State College President **Dr. Devin Stephenson.** "J.R. is an outstanding representative of our college, our athletic teams, and General Jimmy Doolittle and his Raiders. I'm looking forward to seeing the positive impact J.R. will have at various community events."

Northwest Florida State College is honored to use the name "Raiders" as its school and athletic mascot. The student body chose the name in 1964.

- **nwfsc.edu**

J.R., the new NWF State College mascot, surrounded by members of the Raider Rhythms dance team.

When It Comes to Saving Florida's Environment, DeSantis Gets It—So Far

By Carl Hiaasen, Tribune Content Agency

Gov. Ron DeSantis got lots of attention when he focused on the environment for a handful of paragraphs during his inauguration speech last week.

The unusually optimistic reaction shows that Floridians who hope to preserve a few precious pieces of this remarkable place are starved for hope and desperate for leadership.

DeSantis began his green passage with an understatement: "Our economic potential will be jeopardized if we do not solve the problems afflicting our environment and water resources."

In truth, Florida's economy won't merely be "jeopardized" if we don't clean up our act; it will be strangled. Witness the crushing impact of the marathon red-tide outbreak and blue-green algae blooms upon businesses in coastal communities. That was a harrowing, nauseating, tourist-repelling glimpse of the future.

But, unlike his predecessor, DeSantis seems to grasp that it's a serious long-term challenge, not a fleeting scientific anomaly-turned-political inconvenience. "The quality of our water and environmental surroundings are foundational to our prosperity as a state," DeSantis said. "It doesn't just drive tourism; it affects property values, anchors many local economies and is central to our quality of life.

"The water is part and parcel of Florida's DNA," he went on. "Protecting it is the smart thing to do; it's also the right thing to do."

Some wariness from the public would make sense, because this isn't the first time we've heard such words from politicians who—in times of choking red tides or slime-covered rivers—become born-again environmentalists. The test, of course, is how hard (or if) the politicians back up their words after the campaign is over.

DeSantis is wasting no time. On Thursday, he issued a head-spinning executive order calling for a $2.5 billion hike in environmental funding, including increased water-quality monitoring, a purge of septic tanks, and—hang on—a ban on fracking. This is a Republican, folks, one who apparently has heard of Theodore Roosevelt.

Like former Gov. Rick Scott, DeSantis has received campaign contributions from some developers, industries and agricultural interests that are prolific polluters of Florida waterways. But the new governor's supporters—including environmental groups such as the Everglades Trust and Bullsugar—like him because he spoke out strongly against Big Sugar, a major source of nutrient pollution in the Everglades.

DeSantis refused to accept any direct donations from cane growers and opposes government price supports for the industry. It was an unusually tough stance for anyone seeking statewide office in Florida, but don't forget that Scott presented essentially the same anti-sugar message during his first run for governor. Then, after winning the race, Scott experienced either instant amnesia or a 180-degree epiphany. For the next eight years, you could have filled a dump truck with all the money his political action committees took hungrily from Big Sugar, and Big Sugar was well rewarded. Scott obediently endorsed the GOP Legislature's awful rewrite of Florida 's clean-water laws, effectively allowing major agricultural operations to police their own waste practices.

Is DeSantis sincere enough, or gutsy enough, to try to roll back an environmentally destructive law passed by his own party? What would have once been a rhetorical question doesn't seem so pointless now.

Last week DeSantis ordered that environmental enforcement responsibilities be returned to the Department of Environmental Regulation, an agency that Scott had systemically disemboweled and underfunded. Last year the whole world got to see what happens when nobody's paying enough attention to water quality—dead dolphins rotting on the beach and wheezing tourists bolting for the airports.

DeSantis wants to expedite construction of the Everglades reservoir south of Lake Okeechobee to help filter fertilizer-laden runoff from farm fields, and he also promised to appoint a chief science officer.

That's not a typo. The man actually used the word "science," implying he might believe in it. That's as shocking as it is encouraging, because DeSantis has never warmly embraced the extremely scientific concept of climate change. Environmental leaders were uncharacteristically starry-eyed after hearing about DeSantis' order. One called it "amazing," and another said it was "a little like Christmas morning."

Another way the new governor would make a big splash: Invigorate the desiccated water-management districts by appointing sharp independent people to the boards, and by rehiring experts who got dumped or fled during the Scott administration.

The worst hack fest is the South Florida Water Management District, whose stealth re-leasing of state land to sugar giant Florida Crystals angered many people, including Rep. Brian Mast and DeSantis himself, who'd just been elected at the time. That tract of property was slated to be part of the planned Everglades reservoir. On Thursday, with Mast undoubtedly cheering to himself, DeSantis asked for the resignations of all SFWMD board members.

That got the right people's attention. And while it's naive to think DeSantis will always put Florida 's imperiled waterways ahead of corporate campaign

In My Time of Dying

By Charles Morgan III

Plans for my funeral have been documented in excruciating detail. It includes boxes of poisonous snakes, rainstorms, sobbing mourners dressed in black, and a stupid amount of flowers. I even indicated exactly where I want Goose to be located in the massive gathering.

What I haven't specified is the arrangement of my actual death.

Many people prepare for their passing with wills, life insurance, and schemes to bypass the tax liabilities for generational transition of assets. I have always found that stuff boring and, in my family's case, unnecessary.

What is more exciting and important to me is to control the actual process of my farewell from this earth.

Suicide has such harsh connotations and tends to be messy. Euthanasia is already allowed in most European countries and is gaining acceptance in the United States. I'm fairly certain that Bahamians don't even know what euthanasia is.

My farewell will take place off the coast of Guana Cay. It is an island in the Bahamas that I've visited every year of my adult life.

There are a lot of things you can't count on in the Bahamas. Water, electricity, phone service, transportation, and getting anything done are iffy. But there are two things that are reliable.

There is always a black fin tuna bite of the western end of Guana in the early morning and in the late afternoon. You just follow the feeding birds.

You can also count on sharks. If you spend an hour free diving the reef off of Guana you will see a shark, guaranteed.

I'm not sure about shark populations around the world, but there is no shortage of them in the Bahamas. Black tips, reef sharks, hammerheads, tiger sharks, lemon sharks, makos, and even great whites cruise the islands.

In what is surely a misguided attempt by the Bahamians to keep tourists busy, there is Nunjack, a remote cay that draws thousands of people each year to feed sharks. It is just past No Name Cay where you can feed the swimming pigs. Another unusual way to spend the day. This scenario is fraught with future complications.

The relatively small sharks that are hand fed by drunk tourists will grow up to be big sharks. They will associate people with food. If the people are in the water and they didn't bring food for the sharks, the sharks will be pissed off. And that's not good. Unless you have a plan that involves angry sharks.

When I am ready to close this chapter of my life on earth, this is how it will be.

Friends of mine from around the world will be invited to Guana Cay. The people I've fished with my entire life will gather at 5 AM, take boats and run through the cut between Guana Cay and Gumelimi Cay. They'll troll for black fin tuna. They'll catch fish, butterfly the tuna, save the entrails, and prepare for the ceremony.

There will be a massive gathering of friends and family at Nipper's Bar at 4 PM. I will be taken in the Hey Baby, and the boat will be anchored just off the reef in front of Nipper's. A chum line will have been set at noon with the macerated tuna. There will be blood in the water—lots of it. The butterflied fish will be used as teasers. There will be sharks—lots of them. The sharks will be teased to the stern of the boat.

I will be covered in blood and adorned with carcasses of the tuna. With my best smile and a gallant wave to the crowd, I will perform an awkward swan dive into the ocean. You won't be able to unsee this.

There won't be fireworks since it's a daytime event. There will be loud, earth rattling bombs that will be detonated around the golf course at Baker's Bay. Complimentary rum, psychedelic drugs and conch fritters will be provided. Edwin McCain and Milo Pinder will sing a mash-up of the American and Bahamian national anthems. Drones will be used to take fascinating footage of a remarkable death. It will probably be on You Tube.

It will be a good death. A remarkable death. An organic death.

My, my—what a show.

Plans for my funeral remain unchanged.

Carl Hiaasen CONTINUED...

donors, he has a personal investment in the cause that some officeholders don't: DeSantis is a native Floridian with children young enough to marvel at the outdoors. He's also deeply religious, and some evangelicals oppose trashing a place that they believe God created. DeSantis alluded to that notion in his inaugural speech.

And, sounding like a mix of Teddy Roosevelt and Winston Churchill, he also said: "We will fight toxic blue-green algae, we will fight discharges from Lake Okeechobee, we fight red tide, we will fight for our fishermen, we will fight for our beaches, we will fight to restore our Everglades and we will never quit, we won't be cowed and we won't let the foot-draggers stand in the way."

Go, Ronnie, go! As you say, it's the right thing do. And, a year from now, pray we're not reading those words back to you, as a bitter reminder of what you once promised.

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Readers may write to him at: 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, FL 33132.

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New Hotel Celebrates South Walton Art and Artists

The South Walton community is known for its beautiful beaches, friendly people, and its dedication to cultural experiences, making it the chosen location for world-renowned architects, writers, musicians and artists.

The Hyatt Place Sandestin at Grand Boulevard aligns perfectly with these ideals, pairing the artistic influences of the community with the Hyatt Place brand's mission to create a thoughtfully designed experience around each guest.

The developers and designers of Hyatt Place Sandestin at Grand Boulevard have taken great care to enlist the work of renowned local artists to pay homage to South Walton's thriving arts culture. The intention is that every stay at Hyatt Place Sandestin at Grand Boulevard is an artistic experience in and of itself.

Contributing artists include painters, photographers, sculptors, and more. Chandler Williams, South Walton's 2014 Photographer of the Year, is one of the many local artists featured throughout the property. Mr. Williams' work reflects his experiences as a Gulf Coast native and a world-traveler. He combines rustic reclaimed frames with beautiful photographic images processed on wood, metal and other mediums.

Painter and sculptor Justin Gaffrey is well known for his thick acrylic paintings, rich in color and texture, and inspired by nature, human nature, and life experiences.

"The natural environment in South Walton gives me room to breathe within a thriving community of artists," says Mr. Gaffrey. The former chef turned artist has been featured in *Southern Living*, *Florida Digest* and *Better Homes & Gardens,* and in galleries nationwide.

Marisol Gullo's work is featured in the hotel's breakfast area. Ms. Gullo—whose acrylic paintings draw upon the peaceful, beautiful lifestyle of South Walton and its sense of community and diversity—was named South Walton's 2017 Artist of the Year.

Velia Lala, South Walton's 2017 Sculptor of the Year, joins the Hyatt Place art collection with her piece "Elysium." Ms. Lala incorporates a multitude of artistic techniques in her vibrantly colored work—acrylic, mixed medium, epoxy high gloss, photography, and body casting and bronzing. And hotel guests are sure to delight in Victoria Garley's nature-based images that carry a spirit of peace and harmony.

Alejandra Vega is debuting a custom map of South Walton in the lobby of the hotel. This ink and watercolor piece highlights local wildlife and scenery in Ms. Vega's signature pointillism style.

In addition to local artwork in the common areas, guests can also find original works of art in each of the hotel's 84 guestrooms. Raul Pardo's beautiful work accents the accommodations in each room, while also contributing to the overall story of South Walton.

The hotel is also debuting two up-and-coming South Walton artists—painter Amy Lauraé and photographer Petar Petrov. Ms. Lauraé is a fluid and abstract aerialscape artist who creates a visual experience of "stepping into liquid," while Mr. Petrov's photography expresses a sense of depth through the use of light and color.

Hyatt Place Sandestin at Grand Boulevard will celebrate this important artistic milestone for the Emerald Coast with a grand opening party later this year.

- Laura Holloway

ART CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

ARTISTS AT GULF PLACE, 40 Town Center Loop, Santa Rosa Beach. Call 850-622-0400 or visit **www.artistsatgulfplace.com** for more info.

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY (ADSO) Classes at the Art Center Gallery, Fort Walton Beach. More info at **artsdesignsociety.org.**

Mondays and Wednesdays. Clay and Pottery Open Studio, 9 AM-noon both days and 6:30-9 PM Mondays. Beginners welcome. Cost for morning classes with **Pat Basque and Sherry Cooler** is $15 ($12 for ADSO members). Cost for Monday evening class with **Marcy Eady** is $15 ($12 for ADSO members). Materials and firing included.

Tuesdays. Art for Children Ages 6-12, 4-5:30 PM. **Marcy Eady** teaches about the masters and their styles using principles of basic drawing, painting and sculpture. Media vary each week. Cost per month is $70 ($60 for ADSO members). All supplies included.

Tuesdays. Oil Painting with Dale Gauvin, 9 AM-1 PM. Learn the Chiaroscuro technique favored by the old masters. Cost is $90 ($80 for ADSO members).

Tuesdays. Open Studio, 7-9:30 PM. Bring your own supplies (no pottery) and work with other Beachcomberland artists. Cost is $12 ($10 for ADSO members). Call Marcy at 850-585-4967 by 5:30 p.m. to ensure access.

Feb. 2. Life Drawing/Life Painting, 9 AM-12:30 PM. Open session with no instructor. Bring your own materials and work with a model in drawing or painting—no photography allowed. To sign up, call or text Mike at 850-803-5707.

CHROMA STUDIO & GALLERY, 3925 West County Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach. Call 1-844-5-CHROMA or visit **www.CHROMA30A.com** for more info.

HERITAGE MUSEUM OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA, 115 Westview Avenue, Valparaiso. Call 850-678-2615 or visit **Heritage-Museum.org** to sign up or for more info.

Feb. 2. Basket Weaving with Carol Dickson, 10 AM-3 PM. Cost is $55 ($50 for museum members). Space is limited, so call to register.

Feb. 9. Introduction to Woodturning, 10 AM-1 PM. Make your own fine-crafted wooden pen! Cost is $66 ($61 for museum members), all supplies included. Space is limited, so call to register.

Feb. 16. Pine Needle Basket Making with Joe Stoy, 10 AM-4 PM. Cost is $65 ($60 for museum members), all supplies included. Call to register.

Art

HH ARTS, 100 Beal Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-218-2155 to register for classes.

Feb. 2. Digital Photography Basics with Lorelei White, noon-3 PM. Learn the basics from an award-winning portrait photographer. Bring your digital camera and manual. Cost is $60—seating is limited. To register, call the gallery or email **loreleiwhite@pixl-photography.com.**

THE SHARD SHOP in the Shops of Grayton, Grayton Beach. ShardWorx is a new way of making art with glass and resin on a painted surface. Open Mon.-Sat., 9:15 AM-4 PM. Classes daily. Adult classes, 9:30 AM. All ages classes at 11 AM, 1:30 and 3 PM Classes last about an hour, and all materials are provided. Artwork is ready the day after class. All skill levels welcome. Adults start at $85, kids at $40. Sign up online at **ShardShop.com** or call 850-231-0544.

ART EVENTS

THROUGH JAN. 31. ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY (ADSO) WINDOW GALLERY DISPLAY AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH
The spotlight falls on **Holly Bain,** whose art has been described as thought provoking and a little dark with a hint of humor. Her work includes acrylic paintings, digital art and pottery.

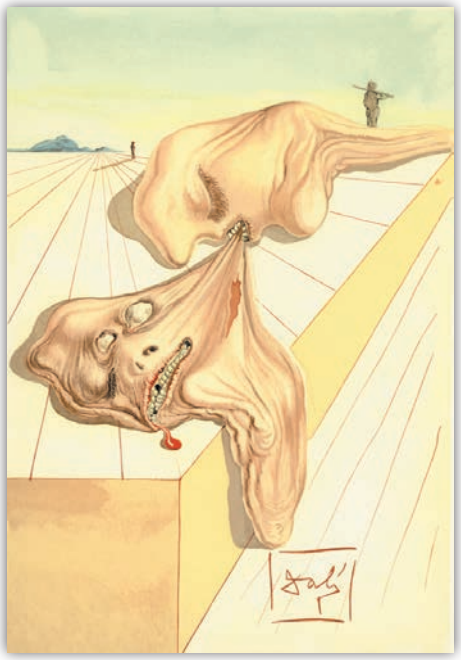
THROUGH FEB. 1. ADSO MEMBERSHIP SHOW AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH
Enjoy ADSO members' stunning work in all media and covering all kinds of subjects. Gallery hours are noon to 4 PM Tue.-Fri., and 1-4 PM Saturdays.

THROUGH MARCH 1. LEN DAVIS: "A THOUSAND WORDS" AT THE HOLZHAUER GALLERY, MATTIE KELLY ARTS CENTER, NICEVILLE

This series explores the complicated interplay between the figurative and the literal. The series consists of 100 8-inch-by-5-inch collages combining drawings of faces, text and newsprint pages. With this series, Mr. Davis illustrates the differences in understanding we derive from reading facial expressions and reading text. The text and the facial expressions work together to build a mental image in viewers, ultimately proving the old adage that a picture is worth a thousand words.

Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 10 AM to 4 PM and 90 minutes prior to most Mainstage and Sprint Theater performances. For more info, contact KC at 850-729-6044 or **artgalleries@nwfsc.edu.**

THROUGH MARCH 1. SALVADOR DALI: "SURREAL VISIONS OF ETERNITY" AT THE McILROY GALLERY, MATTIE KELLY ARTS CENTER, NICEVILLE



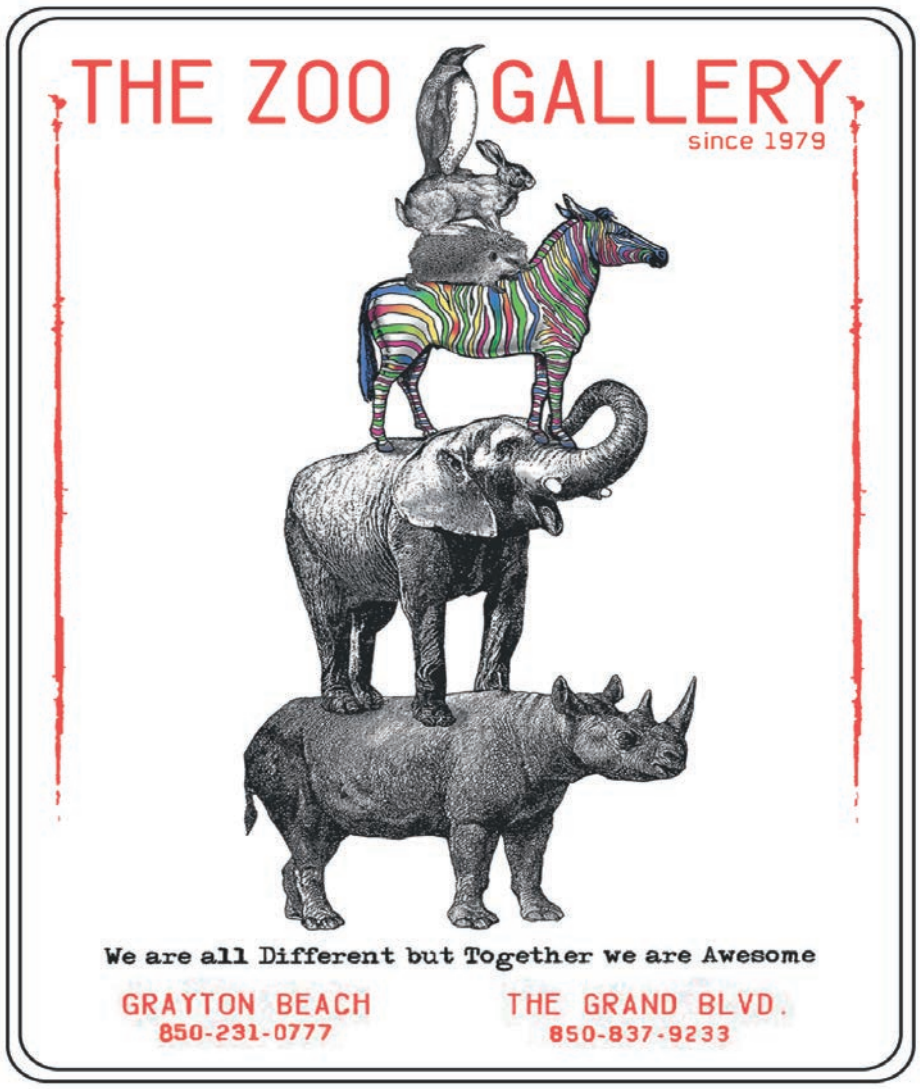
Dali's surrealist interpretation of Dane Alighieri's literary work. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 10 AM to 4 PM and 90 minutes prior to most Mainstage and Sprint Theater performances. For more info, contact KC at 850-729-6044 or **artgalleries@nwfsc.edu.**

THROUGH APRIL 26. "FRESH START" AT EAST END GALLERY, INLET BEACH
Gallery hours are 10 AM-4 PM Mon.-Fri. and Saturdays by appointment. Call 850-252-5150 or email **lori@eastend30a.com** for more info.

OPENS FEB. 1. ADSO WINDOW GALLERY DISPLAY AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH

February's artist is **Racheal Homack,** currently a senior in the University of West Florida's Bachelor of Fine Arts program. Ms. Homack creates artwork using both repurposed and new materials in unconventional ways.

OPENS FEB. 1. DOLLY VARI EXHIBIT AT THE WALTON COUNTY COASTAL BRANCH LIBRARY, SANTA ROSA BEACH
The Freeport artist is committed to working in watercolors on paper. Determined to paint daily to perfect her skills, Ms. Vari's hope is that her ladies, florals and landscapes will delight. As



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Frank Sinatra (Patrick Sallarulo)
Sammy Davis, Jr. (Allan Wiltshire)
Dean Martin (Mark Phillips)

THE Marvelous Vegas COMEDY CLUB

FEBRUARY 8, 2019
7pm Cocktails, 8pm Showtime

Live entertainment by comedian Holly Trolley-Bauer and Frank and Friends: A Rat Pack Tribute.

GRAND BOULEVARD Sandestin TOWN CENTER
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Howard HOSPITALITY

emerald coast theatre company
Tickets or info, call 850-684-0323 or visit
EMERALDCOASTTHEATRE.ORG
Performances will be at 560 Grand Blvd, upstairs.

a single parent of three successful children, she is grateful for all the networking and support of the Beachcomberland art community.

The library is located at 437 Greenway Trail. Hours are 9 AM-6 PM Mondays and 9 AM-5 PM Tue.-Sat.

OPENS FEB. 5. ADSO'S SMALL SHOW AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH
The show, which runs through **Feb. 22,** features works in various media measuring 8-inches-by-8-inches. Reception Friday, **Feb. 8,** 6-8 PM. More at **www.artsdesignsociety.org.**

FEB. 15-17. THE 60TH ANNUAL BEAUX ARTS EXHIBITION IN THE MERIDIAN AT WESTWOOD ATRIUM, 1001 MARWALT DRIVE, FORT WALTON BEACH
Hours are noon-6 PM Friday, 10 AM-6 PM Saturday, and 1-4 PM Sunday. Reception 2-4 PM Sunday, with awards to be presented at 3:30. FREE and open to the public. More info at **www.artsdesignsociety.org,** or call 850-582-1329.

FEB. 16-17. ANNUAL SEASCAPE ART SHOW AND SALE AT SEASCAPE RESORT CONFERENCE CENTER, MIRAMAR BEACH
The FREE community event runs noon-4 PM Saturday and 9 AM-3 PM Sunday and features local art from **Sharon Long** and her fellow artists. Original paintings, prints, cards and unique gift items, plus complimentary light refreshments and artist meet-and-greets. Call 850-240-3220 for more info.

ART GALLERIES

ADARO ART features works from 2015 South Walton Artist of the Year Juan Francisco Adaro, as well as other well-known local and international artists. Open daily from 10 AM to 5 PM. Now located in the Shops at the Hub, 7000 E. Scenic Highway 30A, Suite 21, Watersound, 561-985-5767. Email **adaro.art@gmail.com** or visit **adaroart.com** for more info.

ARTFUL THINGS Original oils, watercolors and acrylics, as well as prints and note cards by local artists. Art classes, supplies and custom framing available. 1087 John Sims Pkwy., Niceville, 850-729-2600. **www.artfulthings.net.**

ARTISTS AT GULF PLACE Eight great artists, one great location. Art, photography, pottery, jewelry, tie dye, glass art, woodworking, classes, workshops and more. Open seven days a week. 40 Town Center Loop, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-0400. **www.artistsatgulfplace.com**.

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY Features art shows by local and regional artists. Open afternoons Tuesday through Saturday. Shows change monthly. Art classes and workshops in various media. 17 First Street SE, Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-1271. **www.artsdesignsociety.org**.

CHROMA STUDIO & GALLERY features the art of South Walton's 2018 Artist of the Year **Kathleen Broaderick**. Browse Kathleen's original oil paintings in the gallery or take a boutique paint class in Kathleen's studio. Kathleen offers oil painting workshops featuring her energetic, loose and colorful style, as well as acrylic paint classes for artists and non-artists alike. The CHROMA Studio & Gallery is a place where guests will feel comfortable expressing themselves and finding joy in art. CHROMA is located at 3925 West County Highway 30A in Santa Rosa Beach (just west of Goatfeathers restaurant). Visit **www.CHROMA30A.com** or call 1-844-5-CHROMA for more information.

No starving artists here… participants in the Arts and Design Society's recent chili cook-off in Fort Walton Beach. From left—Charlotte Snyder, David Roberts, Candy Broxson (first place winner!), Jeanette Phillips, Karen Lauer, Wally Ratcliffe and Racheal Homack.

Photo submitted by Tuny Jennings.

G & CO. GALLERY (formerly Geana's Art Gallery) Located in City Market, Destin. An exciting art gallery and full service frame and mirror shop offering a large selection of local, regional and international artists ranging from local photography to original fine art. Quality and value is second to none. We ship worldwide. 850-650-0779. **www.GAndCoGallery.com.**

HH ARTS offers works for sale from local artists in all mediums. There are many award-winning artists displayed in oil, acrylic, encaustic, collage, clay, handmade candles, and handmade jewelry designs in glass, leather and Victorian style. Studio space available for artists at reasonable rates. An outdoor area is also available for plein air painting or classes, with lighting and overhead covering. There will be classes offered for children and adults. Located at 100 Beal Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach (three blocks off 98, across from Troy University). Open Tue.-Sat., 10 AM- 3 PM. For more info, call 850-218-2155 and "like" HH Arts on Facebook. Follow us on Instagram.

THE JUSTIN GAFFREY GALLERY features the coastal contemporary paintings and sculptures of local artist Justin Gaffrey. Visit the gallery to browse through Justin's coastal landscape, floral, and still-life paintings or stroll through the sculpture garden to view the various welded steel sculptures. Justin is most recognized for his heavily textured, heavy bodied acrylic, palette knife paintings of the local landscape, florals, and wildlife. The Justin Gaffrey Gallery is located at 21 Blue Gulf Drive along Scenic highway 30A in Blue Mountain Beach. Visit **justingaffrey.com** or stop by the gallery Monday through Saturday from 10 AM to 6 PM. Follow the Justin Gaffrey Gallery on Facebook and Instagram to see Justin's most recent creations.

MARY HONG GALLERY Located in Grayton Beach (Shops of Grayton), Destin (next to Ulta and Michael's), Nashville (4th and Union next to DoubleTree Hotel) and on Magazine Street in New Orleans. Mary Hong, the 2014 South Walton Artist of the Year, has been featured in over 10 publications and has appeared on *Emeril's Florida* TV show and HGTV's *House Hunters.* Mary's take on glass art incorporates the use of repurposed glass on painted canvas. She and her team offer classes at The Shard Shop, located adjacent to or inside her gallery locations. Classes are offered four to five times a day, and there is an extensive retail section full of thousands of pounds of glorious glass and art kits to take your ShardWorx on the go. We host parties and team events, too. Grayton Beach gallery open seven days a week, 9:30 AM-5 PM 850-231-1416. **MaryHongStudio.com.**

THE SHARD SHOP open seven days a week, 9:15 AM-4 PM. 850-231-0544. **ShardShop.com/Grayton.** Destin gallery and Shard Shop open seven days a week, 9 AM-7 PM. 850-842-4440. **ShardShop.com/Destin.**

MATTIE KELLY ART GALLERIES AT NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE The Arts Center Galleries at Northwest Florida State College in Niceville encompass two galleries showcasing 20 different international, national and regional exhibitions yearly, which are unique to this region. Viewing hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 AM to 4 PM, and Sunday, 1-4 PM. Visit **www.mattiekellyartscenter.org** or call 850-729-6044.

THE ZOO GALLERY Created in 1979. Locally owned small business. We focus on quality, handcrafted work by hardworking artists. Our galleries showcase an eclectic range of curated artwork from all over the country, a jewelry collection like no other, plus unique clothing lines for women with soul. We keep a sense of wonder. We stand out from the herd. Located in Grayton Beach across from the Red Bar and in Grand Boulevard at Sandestin. **#standoutfromtheherd thezoogallery.com**

CALL TO ARTISTS

Arts and Design Society's (ADSO) "Small" Show
Open to all interested artists in the following dimensions—2D, 8-inch-by-8-inch; 3D, 8-inch-by-8-inch-by-8-inch. Cash awards. Turn in work Friday, **Feb. 1,** noon-4 PM, and Monday, **Feb. 4,** 9 AM-noon. Get a copy of the entry form at **artsdesignsociety.org** or call 850-244-1271.

ADSO's 60th Annual Beaux Arts Exhibition
Open to all artists 18 and older. Cash awards. Entry fee (for two entries) is $35 ($25 for ADSO members)—additional entries may be made for $5, with a limit of three total entries. Registration is at the Atrium of the Meridian at Westwood, located at 1001 Mar Walt Drive in Fort Walton Beach, Thursday, **Feb. 14,** 9 AM-noon. The exhibition runs **Feb. 15-17,** with reception and silent auction Sunday, **Feb. 17,** 2-4 PM. For more info and registration form, visit **artsdesignsociety.org** or call Hanna at 850-582-1329.

Emerald Coast Science Center's 30th Anniversary
Seeking contributions from local artists for silent auction and more. Theme is "what science means to me" and/or "what you see when you think of the word science." Contact Kate at **kate@ecscience.org** or call 850-664-1261.

ArtsQuest Fine Arts Festival
The Cultural Arts Alliance of Walton County invites artists to apply to exhibit in the 31st Annual ArtsQuest, happening **May 11 and 12** in South Walton. Artists who apply before **Jan. 31** will receive an early bird jury and booth rate fee. Artists are invited to apply in the categories of Mixed Media, Ceramics, Works on Paper, Fiber, Glass, Jewelry, Metal, Oils and Acrylics, Photography, Digital Art, Sculpture, and Wood (including furniture).

The final application deadline is **March 8.** Jurying is by art industry professionals. Previous year award winners from the 2018 ArtsQuest show do not need to submit jury fees and will be automatically admitted into the 2019 ArtsQuest show should they meet the application deadline.

Call the CAA office at 850-622-5970 for details, and apply to the event at **Zapplication.org.**

Mattie M. Kelly Environmental Institute 12th Annual Amateur Photo Contest
Submission deadline is 5 PM, **March 12.** First, second and third place photos will win cash prizes--$250, $150 and $100 respectively. These photos, along with the additional honorable mentions, will comprise the 2020 Mattie M. Kelly Environmental Institute Calendar.

All submitted photos must have been taken in the Northwest Florida region within the last two years, and photo subjects must encompass the natural heritage of the Northwest Florida region.

Email **mkei@nwfsc.edu** for a full list of submission guidelines, contest rules and entry requirements. No purchase or payment is necessary to enter.

HELLO, LOCALS!

The crowds are away, it's time for the locals to play!
Present your local ID at any Saltwater Restaurant location to receive your exclusive *locals card* and a much-deserved 15%-off your entire bill, every time.

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Okaloosa Island
ALSBEACHCLUB.COM
(850) 226-4100

THE Crab TRAP SEAFOOD and OYSTER BAR
CRABTRAPFLORIDA.COM
Fort Walton Beach: (850) 301-0959
Destin: (850) 654-2722

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SURFHUTDESTIN.COM
(850) 460-7750

ROCKIN TACOS GRILL & TEQUILA BAR
Okaloosa Island
ROCKINTACOS.COM
(850) 226-8226

FLOYD'S SHRIMP HOUSE
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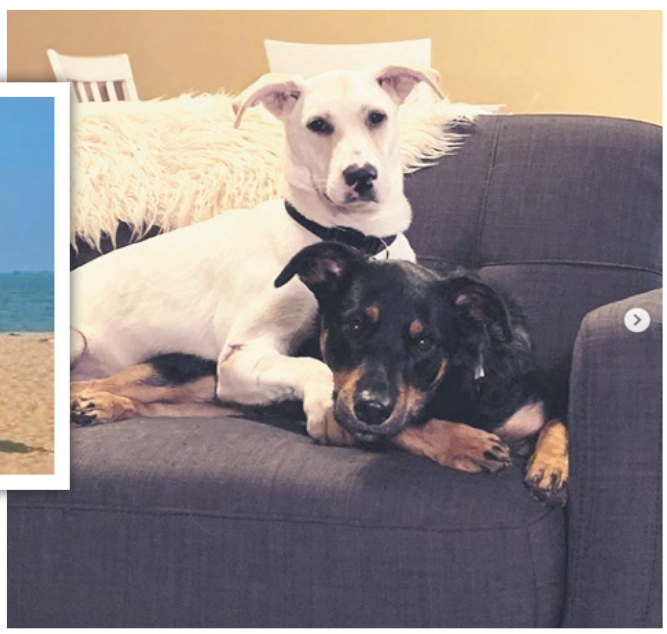
(850) 243-2232

#BEACHCOMBERDESTIN -

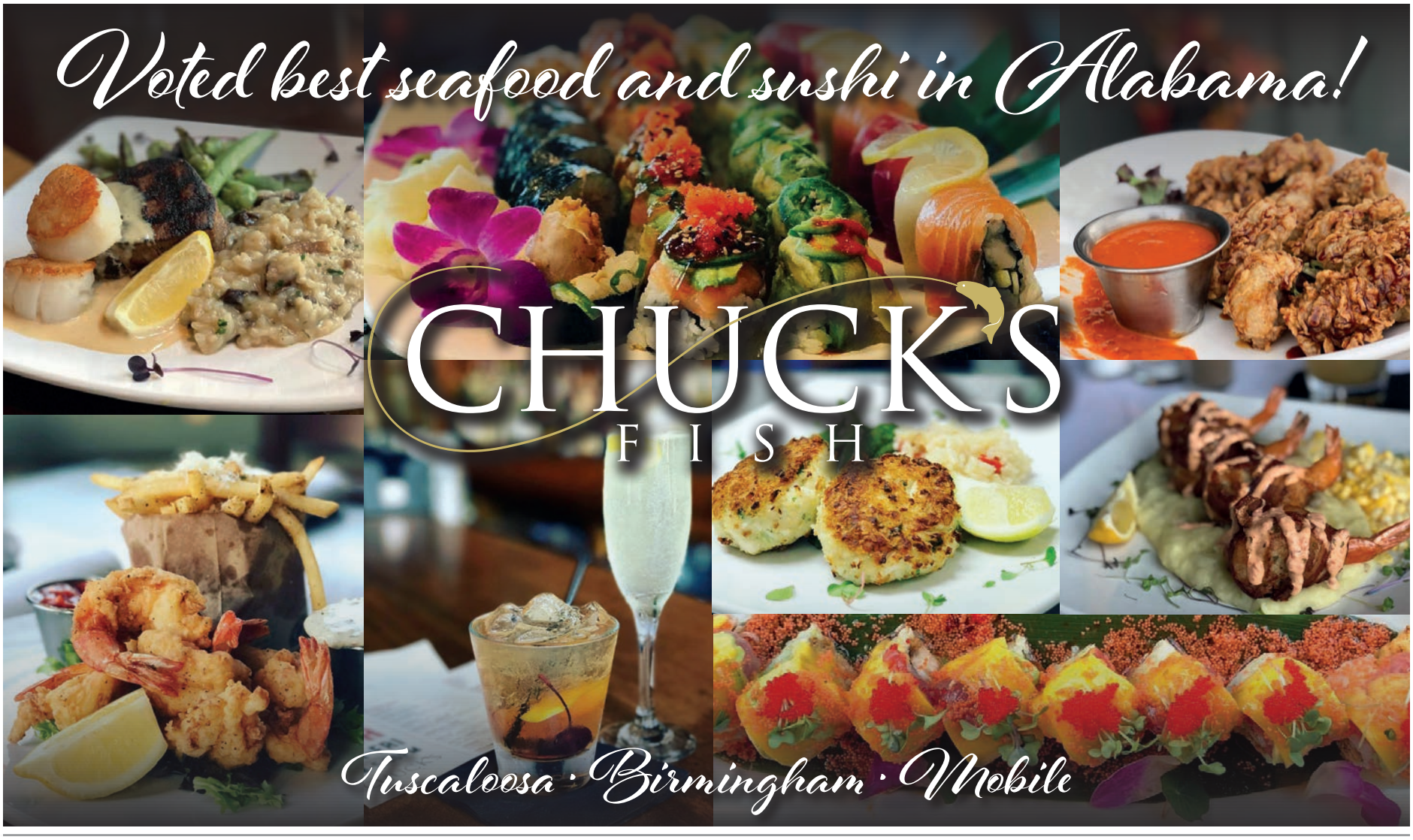
SHARE YOUR PHOTOS AND GET FEATURED HERE!
instagram.com/beachcomberdestin

@clayjonz
Hope to see BEACHCOMBER (among others) cartoonist Clay Jones and his well loved guitar at the inaugural 98 Songwriters Festival this fall.

@destinseaturtlealliance
They tell us the photo wasn't taken around these parts, but we'd still like to claim it as our own.



@katiecaninecare
Because there's always room for one more adorable doggo photo in the Emerald Coast's Favorite Magazine.



Destin's #1 Billboard Charting Artist Talks Music's Biggest Night

By Michael J Thomas

I am a voting member of the National Association of Recording Arts & Science (NARAS), better known as the Grammy Awards. Voting membership is for performers, songwriters, producers, engineers, instrumentalists and other creators currently working in the recording industry. This is my fourth year as a voting member, and I will make my second attendance at the 61st Grammy Awards on Sunday, **Feb. 10.**

As a voting member, it is my responsibility to listen to submissions in the categories that I choose to vote in. The process can be tedious and rewarding. Artists from all around the world connect with me via social media, email or direct mail to pitch their submissions for my voting consideration. I get the opportunity to hear music that I would have never been exposed to without my membership, and it's pretty cool when artists I've voted for are nominated for and/or win a Grammy.

People often ask me what it is like to attend the Grammys. There is so much more to the Grammy Awards than what the general public sees on television. Most of the awards are not televised. The televised portion focuses on what I would consider pop culture to the mainstream—the most popular genres of music.

However, the portion that is titled Grammy Awards Premiere Ceremony (streamed online) is just as professionally carried out as the televised portion. The host on my first attendance, the 59th Grammy Awards, was comedian Margaret Cho. She was really funny and improvised quite a bit during the show by interacting with guests and nominees/winners.

There are also live performances during the show—some really incredible artists that, in my opinion, are much better than most of the performances on the televised ceremony. The Premier Ceremony lasts roughly three hours.

That brings me to the show that you will see on TV. It is amazing to see what goes on behind the scenes. The stage sets are impressive. The main backdrop hides the crews working behind the scenes. I remember watching them setting up for Beyonce's performance. The long table she was sitting on top of in a chair during her performance was actually just several six-foot rectangle banquet tables put together and covered with decorations. There were flower petals all over the stage, and at commercial break there was probably a 30-member crew with brooms sweeping them up into garbage bags.

Because it is televised, we are given cues of when to applaud, etc. when going to commercial or coming back from a break. There is a television delay, so I actually heard Adele swear after she stopped the performance of "Fastlove" during a tribute to George Michael, who died earlier that year.

Michael J Thomas and Trammell Stark. Mr. Stark produced "My Love" from MJT's DRIVEN album.

There was a technical glitch where she couldn't hear herself sing, and it sounded to me like she started singing in the wrong key. She wanted to make it right to honor George Michael's legacy, and after resuming, it was a magnificent performance with the orchestra backing her up. There was another tribute to Prince performed by Bruno Mars and Morris Day & the Time…that was the highlight of the show for me.

After the show, I attended the official Grammy after party, and do they know how to throw a party! There is a jazz room with a big band performing and a buffet spread. In the (massive) main room was Kool & the Gang performing all their hits. The theme was "A Midsummer Night's Dream," an ethereal soiree that included more than 50 costumed performers and aerialists, custom buffet stations, fog machines, and a performance tree. More than 5,000 guests attended.

I ended up at an *after* after party in the Millennium Biltmore, a famous landmark with some serious Hollywood history including the Oscars. I struck up a conversation with a guy there and asked him what he does in the biz, and he nonchalantly said he produced 2Pac. We friended each other on Facebook. He was being modest. I Googled him and found out he's still quite active and has even worked with Mariah Carey.

Grammy day is a long day, but it's also a lot of fun and worth it. You meet a lot of folks that are really accomplished, and for the most part, everyone is cool and respectful no matter what level of success you are at in your career. It's great camaraderie, and the friends I have made I can ask for advice and vice versa.

10 THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT THE GRAMMYS

1. The Recording Academy receives more than 20,000 submissions each year.

2. The Recording Academy approves membership at its sole discretion based on its assessment of the submission.

3. In 2004, the Staples Center in Los Angeles became the permanent host of the Grammys. The exception was the 60th Annual Grammy Awards, which were hosted in New York City in 2018 due to it being a special anniversary.

4. Most of the Grammy Awards takes place prior to the telecast and is live streamed.

5. There are currently 30 fields (General, Pop, Gospel, Classical, etc.) and 84 distinct award categories across those fields.

6. Eligible voters are permitted to vote in the four General Field categories (Album of the Year, Record of the Year, Song of the Year, and Best New Artist) and up to 15 additional award categories, based on their genres and areas of expertise.

7. For the 61st Annual GRAMMY Awards, recordings must have been released between October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018. This sometimes confuses fans if their artist drops an album in the last quarter of the year because they think that artist is being snubbed. In actuality, they are not eligible until the following year.

8. The gramophone statuettes awarded to the winners are not the actual awards they will take home with them. The real ones are mailed out to the winners at a later date after they have been engraved. No one really knows the outcome until the opened envelope reveals the winner.

9. When you attend the Official Grammy After Party, you get a swag bag of goodies. There were some interesting things in mine like a Hello Kitty sweatband and a chocolate protein bar.

10. The Recording Academy's charity MusiCares provides a safety net of critical assistance for music people in times of need. MusiCares' services and resources cover a wide range of financial, medical and personal emergencies, and each case is treated with integrity and confidentiality.

FRESH SEAFOOD?

One of the first questions people ask when they visit our area is

"How can we be sure we're getting fresh seafood?"

That's an excellent question. In the state of Florida, even though it is surrounded by water, more than 90% of the seafood sold this year will be imported from other countries.

Throughout the United States, the huge majority of seafood is imported. Most of it is mislabeled. Frozen seafood is sold as "fresh" and imported seafood is sold as "local". According to Oceana, 93% of fish sold as red snapper is actually some other species. 57% of tuna sold at sushi bars throughout the country is not tuna. Most of the tilapia served in this country comes from Viet Nam and Thailand and much of it is farmed in waters with sewage run-off and the source of feed is pig feces.

Harbor Docks has been selling fish through its wholesale market since 1981. We sell to markets across the United States and Canada. We also sell to select restaurants along the Gulf Coast. Harbor Docks contracts with over 100 commercial boats to ensure that we have an adequate supply of fresh fish.

GULF TO TABLE

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Imported seafood stat: http://www.fishwatch.gov/farmed_seafood/outside_the_us.htm
Tilapia/pig feces: http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-10-11/asian-seafood-raised-on-pig-feces-approved-for-u-s-consumers.html

Music > The Pauseandplay.com Record Roundup

Musicians - send your CDs, vinyl and/or cassettes to Beachcomber, P.O. Box 5707, Destin, FL 32540-5707. Email MP3s and streaming links to **chris@beachcomberdestin.com**.

The Apalachicola Sound

Gritwater

Independent

With Pensacola roots, an old-timey country voice, and less traveled subject matter, the Apalachicola Sound is bound to appeal to those who associate the word "cash" with a certain person as much as currency. And about that subject matter...instead of the well-worn roads of love and heartbreak for a special person, *Gritwater* revels in those same emotions for favorite fishing holes that have been corrupted by time and greed. There is something beautifully nostalgic about the album, an ode to simpler times that is especially endearing during turbulent times.

- Nikki Hedrick

Hollow Leg

Civilizations

Argonauta Records

Yes, Florida has metal bands. And yes, there is more to Florida metal than the old school death metal that put Tampa on the map. If your flavors go a little more Black Sabbath than most of your friends, sludge kings like Hollow Leg may find a special place in your heart. *Civilizations* roars and churns—a slow march into madness, with snarled vocals leading the way to the end of the world.

- Nikki Hedrick

Farnell Newton

Lofijazzsoul

Nwsoulacademy

Trumpeter Farnell Newton teams with producer-composer-arranger Toranpetto on *Lofijazzsoul*. The 11-track album was my introduction to the "Lofi" (formerly Lo-Fi, as in, "the opposite of Hi-Fi") genre of recording. It's minimally processed recording, an aural analogue to organic food. If you don't like hip-hop, this may take some getting used to. Still, the marriage of jazz and hip-hop is actually a natural fit—rock 'n roll is far too confrontational to accommodate it. There's a lot to enjoy here, if you're in the mood and enjoy "atmospheric" or relaxation recordings. An acquired taste, like the rest of jazz.

- Bruce Collier

Philippe Quint and Marta Aznavoorian

Chaplin's Smile – Song Arrangements for Violin & Piano

Warner Classics

Charlie Chaplin turned 130 on January 11. A consummate *auteur*, he wrote, directed, acted, produced and even composed the scores for his films. Violinist Philippe Quint and pianist Marta Aznavoorian collaborated on this 13-track tribute. Along with the title tune ("Smile," Charlie's most enduring song), there are excerpts from *City Lights* and *The Kid,* dances,

and suite arrangements. Like much of Chaplin's work, the music can sometimes be overwhelmingly sentimental. Nevertheless, there's still that touch of underclass subversion and mockery that keeps the Little Tramp's adventures timeless. If listening turns you on to the movies of this genius, even better.

- Bruce Collier

John Raymond

Real Feels Live Vol. 2

Sunnyside Records

Trumpeter-flugelhornist-composer John Raymond joins with his band Real Feels (including guitarist Gilad Hekselman and drummer Colin Stranahan) for this second live album. Recorded at the Blue Whale club in Los Angeles, it features Raymond on flugelhorn only. The six tracks include some Raymond standards like "Joy Ride," and a leisurely, mournful cover of "The Times They Are A-Changin'" that sounds like the score of a Clint Eastwood western. Raymond's flugelhorn tone offers a clinic on how to sound mellow and smooth without sounding like Mellow Smooth Jazz. Though live, you scarcely hear the audience on this record. It's that good.

- Bruce Collier

Ryanhood

Early Best (2003-2009)

Independent

This award-winning acoustic-pop duo has released a steady stream of new material since their formation. With live albums, Christmas compilations, and more original music than you can shake a stick at, Ryanhood have continuously honed their harmonies and melodies to a place where they exude an effortlessness that only comes with endless hours of work. Whether the best-of is your first introduction of the band or an easy way to have a curated playlist of their more popular tunes, *Early Best* is 16 tracks of Ryanhood at their strongest.

- Nikki Hedrick

EDITOR'S CHOICE
Patton Oswalt

Annihilation

Comedy Dynamics

The best comedy LP in years is loaded with the expected belly laughs, but then Mr. Oswalt confronts the death of his wife (true crime writer Michelle McNamara) and his and his daughter's grief, and now you've got yourself a work of art.

Alice Merton

MINT

Mom + Pop

This exciting newcomer could get by on attitude alone, but the 11 songs here are catchy as hell, too. And Ms. Merton, a rocker at heart, sings her ass off.

- Chris Manson

Pause&Play (the music site)

Pauseandplay.com – Since 1997, P&P has been the definitive place for music fans to find out when a new album is coming out. Also stay up on the latest reissues and music-related DVD/Blu-rays and books. Elton John says he uses Pauseandplay.com to keep track of new music, and *Entertainment Weekly* has included it on its list of "The 100 Greatest Web Sites," one of only 17 music sites to be selected.

LIFE
IS FULL OF COMPLICATIONS
DINING OUT
SHOULDN'T BE ONE OF THEM

LOCATIONS IN ALABAMA, GEORGIA & TENNESSEE
VISIT FIVE-BAR.COM & SEE HOW SIMPLE DINING OUT SHOULD BE

CRESCENDO!
An event supporting **Sinfonia Gulf Coast**

A Cultural and Culinary Extravaganza!

MAIN EVENT
LUNCH en BLANC

Sunday, February 17 | 11:30 a.m.
Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa
$150 per person

Ticket includes valet parking, passed hors d'oeuvres, reserved table seating including lunch, Epic Photobooth stations, silent and live auction, and an all-inclusive afternoon of incredible fun!

Special guest artist:
Shades of Bublé:
A Three Man Tribute to Michael Bublé

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Rockin' and Rebuilding...Again

By Nikki Hedrick

"Back in St. Louis, we've dealt with tornadoes, floods, all kinds of stuff, but nothing in remote comparison to what happened for Hurricane Michael," says **John Wolffer.**

Moved by the sheer scope of Michael's destruction, Wolffer founded Rock the Rebuild to facilitate a benefit concert. Their December event raised funds for Bay County's Habitat for Humanity and left them with a desire to do more.

Rock the Rebuild 2.0 will take place Saturday, **Feb. 9,** from 4 PM to midnight in downtown Fort Walton Beach. Both Enlightened Studios and the Green Door Music Hall will host over a dozen musical acts.

Event coordinator and Qwerty band member **Christian Mayes** tells *Beachcomber,* "We intend to unite our community with itself while raising funds to help the students of Bay County. Every little bit helps in this continued effort to keep morale and hope alive and growing amongst the victims of this devastating storm."

Wolffer explains how he came to this area: "I'll try to mail out the Cliff Notes here. Allen (Rayfield) and I played music together back when I was a teenager for a short amount of time, and we lost contact. He reached out to me on Facebook, going on just a little bit more than two years ago. He started telling me what he was doing, and I was telling him what I was doing at the time. I was playing music a little bit—playing in a church, weekly services, pickup gigs, stuff like that.

"I wasn't really completely involved in the music scene. He started telling me about the Panhandle and the music scene around the area. He was just like, 'Yeah, come on down. Play two, three, four, five, six, seven nights a week. Yeah, there's all kinds of people that are doing it.' I'm like, *Okay, yeah, sure.*

"(I'm) from the Show Me state, so the first inclination is, *Yeah, I have to see it to believe it.* But the good news is, it didn't take long for me to figure that one out. It just so happened on the day that he was telling me all about this, and he said, 'Yeah, come on down,' was the day I was literally packing my bags anyways to go down to Florida. I just had an extended vacation of going on about two years now."

Like most of us, Wolffer was tuned into Hurricane Michael's track. "I stayed up all night worrying about the hurricane... and I realized how lucky I was. I ended up going over to Panama City with a friend. We went over to take a look at the damage and decided we needed to try to do something."

Those were the seeds of Rock the Rebuild. For Rock the Rebuild 2.0, Wolffer chose a beneficiary relating to his musical instrument of choice. "It definitely hits me in a soft spot, being the fact that I'm a drummer and I've been through the whole marching band."

With their eye towards Bay High School's drumline needs (with upwards of a $25,000 price tag attached), Rock the Rebuild 2.0 hopes to make a dent in those fundraising efforts.

"I guess the thing to be able to take away from it is it's all volunteers," says Wolffer. "It's all people that stood up to the plate to try to be able to do something. It's as grassroots as it gets. There's no organization tied to this. There's no nonprofit tied to it. It's literally just a group of a few concerned citizens that wanted to throw a good concert and a good thing."

With local businesses donating silent auction and sponsorship items, bands donating their time, and volunteers helping the event come together, Rock the Rebuild 2.0 is indeed a community effort.

As for Wolffer, he can be found filling in behind the drum kit with area bands and playing most Monday nights at Destin's Funky Blues Shack for the weekly Emerald Coast Blues Society jam.

Grammy Award nominated Brandi Carlile performs at the 2019 30A Fest.
Photo by Jeff Pattison, auralimage.net.

UPCOMING MUSIC RELEASES

FEB. 1

Girlpool, ***What Chaos Is Imaginary****
Emily King, ***Scenery****
Mandolin Orange, ***Tides of a Teardrop***
Hedvig Mollestad Trio, ***Smells Funny***
Linda Ronstadt, ***Live in Hollywood.****
Recorded in 1980.
The Specials, ***Encore****

FEB. 8

Busted, ***Half Way There****
Downfall of Gala, ***Ethic of Radical Finitude***
The Lemonheads, ***Varshons II****
Cass McCombs, ***Tio of the Sphere****
Mercury Rev, ***Bobbie Gentry's The Delta Sweete Revisited****
Bob Mould, ***Sunshine Rock****
Panda Bear, ***Buoys****
Jessica Pratt, ***Quiet Signs****
Mavis Staples, ***Live in London****
Robin Trower, ***The Studio Albums 1973-1983***
UB40, ***For the Many****
Reggie Young, ***Session Guitar Star***

* Also on Vinyl
** Also on Vinyl and Cassette

Sources: allmusic.com, pauseandplay.com

Live Music

Musicians and venues: Email **chris@beachcomberdestin.com** to get your gigs listed here.

THURSDAY, JAN. 31

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 PM

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5-9 PM

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Open Jam, 7-11 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
SIMPLY D'VYNE, 7 PM

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach
MAX McCANN, 4 PM

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
CHERYL JONES, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (Main Bar and Dining Room)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 PM
Ladies Night

FRIDAY, FEB. 1

ARNETT'S FARMHOUSE TACK ROOM, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS, 7 PM
Seated tickets are $10, standing room only FREE. Doors open at 6:30.

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
JONES & COMPANY, 7-10 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
CADILLAC WILLY, 8 PM

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
RONNIE PRESLEY, 5 PM

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
JOHN GALT & MOJO BREEZE, 7:30-10:30 PM
Tonight, it's "A Nod to Tom"—the late, great Mr. Petty, that is. Who Among us can resist "Free Fallin'"?

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (Main Bar and Dining Room)

SLICK MICK'S, Fort Walton Beach
BOB CUSHING, 6:30 PM

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 PM-Midnight

3RD PLANET BREWING MOTHERSHIP, Niceville
ROB ROMANS

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
MYA – TERRY BRIGHT, 7 PM

SATURDAY, FEB. 2

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
COCONUT RADIO, 6 PM

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK, Panama City Beach
PIERCE PETTIS, 6:30-8 PM

DEWEY DESTIN'S, Navarre
AUSTIN JENNINGS, 8-11 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
THE HOODOOS, 8 PM

KC'S SANDBAR, Fort Walton Beach
BOB CUSHING, 8 PM

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
LANG HOLLOMAN, 5 PM

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

SANDDOLLAR LOUNGE, WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBYD, 7-10 PM

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 PM-Midnight

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
GRIZFOLK, 6 PM

SUNDAY, FEB. 3

AJ'S, Destin
JONES AND COMPANY, 4-8 PM (Bimini Stage)

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
HOPE GIVEN, 1-4 PM

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – DUKE BARDWELL – SHANNON WALLACE, et al., 11 AM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
Jazz Jam with MATT McCARTY, 6-9 PM

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, EmeraldGrande.com
JOE FINGAS, 2-4 PM
The Beachcomber Music Awards Hall of Famer takes the stage at HarborWalk's Winter Concert Series, and we can only hope that "When the Saints…" makes it into the setlist.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
DREAD CLAMPITT, 11 PM-3 PM and 7-10 PM

STINKY'S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS with FRANKO "WASHBOARD" JACKSON, 11 AM-2 PM

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 PM-Midnight

MONDAY, FEB. 4

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

Lake Street Dive and Mikaela Davis deliver the goods at Pensacola's Vinyl Music Hall in January. Fortunately, Connie Baggett was able to grab a great shot or three while Editor Manson was getting his shots at the bar.

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5:30-8:30 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
Emerald Coast Blues Society Jam, 7 PM

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
DREAD CLAMPITT, 7-10 PM

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 PM-Midnight

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
MARTIN SEXTON

TUESDAY, FEB. 5

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
DREAM WORLD, 7 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 PM-Midnight

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
NEKO CASE

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5-9 PM
Ladies Night

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
CAT RHODES, 7 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin
ROB ROMANS

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (Main Bar and Dining Room)

SANDDOLLAR LOUNGE, WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBYD, 7-10 PM

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
PROJECT PAT "Cheese and Dope Tour"

Live Music

THURSDAY, FEB. 7

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 PM

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5-9 PM

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Open Jam, 7-11 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
SIMPLY D'VYNE, 7 PM

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach
MAX McCANN, 4 PM

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
HOWLIN' JACK, 5 PM

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin
ROB ROMANS

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 PM

THE REP THEATRE, Seaside
RYANHOOD, 7:30 PM ($25)
Nikki Hedrick reviews Ryanhood's Early Best *in this issue's PauseandPlay.com Record Roundup. Get your tickets to the show at* **LoveTheREP.com.**

RUTH'S CHRIS REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
CHERYL JONES, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (Main Bar and Dining Room)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 PM
Ladies Night

FRIDAY, FEB. 8

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
JONES & COMPANY, 7-10 PM

ELKS LODGE, Okaloosa Island
BOBBYD, 6:30-9:30 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 8-11 PM

JIMMY'S JUKEBOX, Fort Walton Beach
BOB CUSHING, 9 PM

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
LEFTY COLLINS, 5 PM

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin
ROB ROMANS

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
TBA, 7:30-10:30 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (Main Bar and Dining Room)

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 PM-Midnight

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
THE MAGPIE SALUTE

SATURDAY, FEB. 9

BELLA BLUE BAR, Niceville
BOB CUSHING, 6:30 PM

THE BLOCK, Fort Walton Beach
WALKER HAYES, 8 PM

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
COCONUT RADIO, 6 PM

DEWEY DESTIN'S, Navarre
AUSTIN JENNINGS, 8-11 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Rock the Rebuild 2.0, 4:15 PM-Midnight
Dozens of musical acts come together for a Hurricane Michael benefit. See Nikki Hedrick's article in this section for more info.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
CAT RHODES, 8 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Rock the Rebuild 2.0, 7 PM-Midnight
Dozens of musical acts come together for a Hurricane Michael benefit. See Nikki Hedrick's article in this section for more info.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
LANG HOLLOMAN, 5 PM

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin
ROB ROMANS

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

SANDDOLLAR LOUNGE, WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBYD, 7-10 PM

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 PM-Midnight

SUNDAY, FEB. 10

AJ'S, Destin
JONES AND COMPANY, 4-8 PM (Bimini Stage)

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
THE PICKLED PICKERS, 3-7 PM

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
HOPE GIVEN, 1-4 PM

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – DUKE BARDWELL – SHANNON WALLACE, et al., 11 AM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
Jazz Jam with MATT McCARTY, 6-9 PM

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, EmeraldGrande.com
CHOCTAWHATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND, 2-4 PM
Winter Concert Series

PENSACOLA BAY CENTER, Pensacola
JAMES TAYLOR – BONNIE RAITT, 8 PM

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
DREAD CLAMPITT, 11 AM-3 PM and 7-10 PM

SGT. EARL'S TAVERN, Milton
BOB CUSHING, 2-6 PM

STINKY'S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS with FRANKO "WASHBOARD" JACKSON, 11 AM-2 PM

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 PM-Midnight

MONDAY, FEB. 11

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5:30-8:30 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
Emerald Coast Blues Society Jam, 7 PM

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
DREAD CLAMPITT, 7-10 PM

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 PM-Midnight

TUESDAY, FEB. 12

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
DREAM WORLD, 7 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 PM-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 PM

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
AGENT ORANGE

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5-9 PM
Ladies Night

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
CAT RHODES, 7 PM

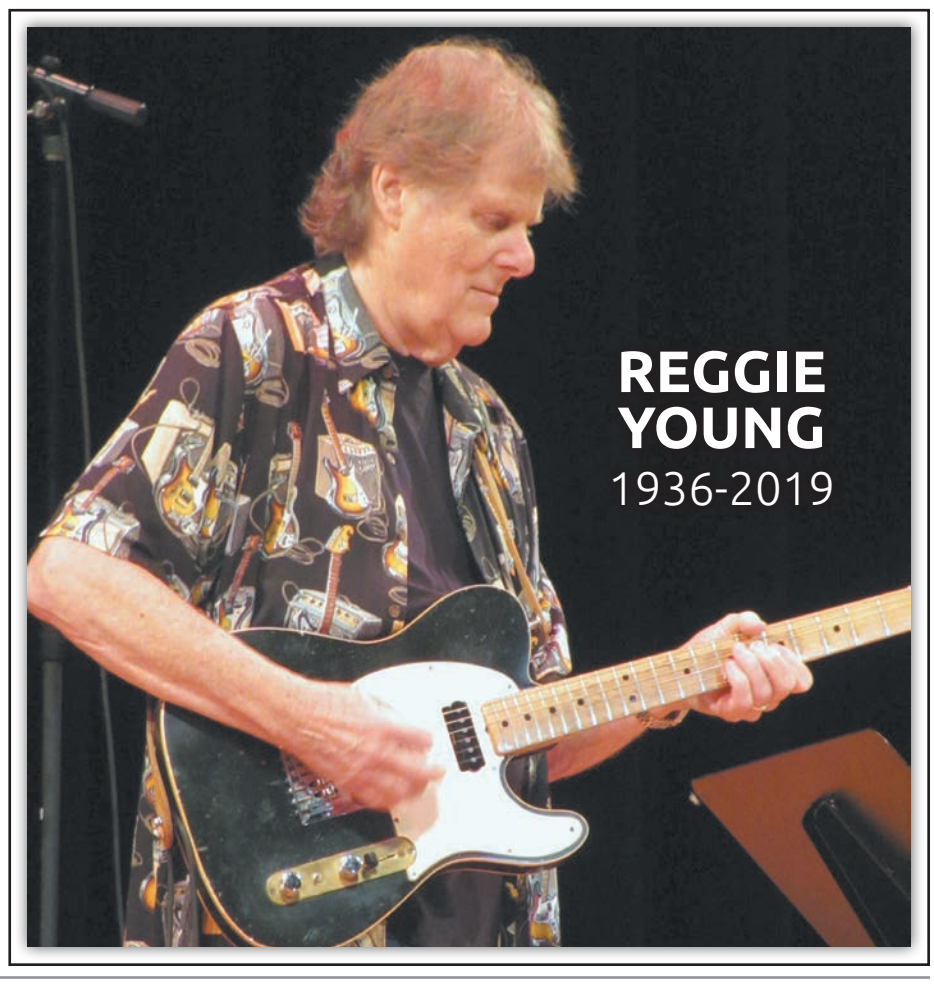
GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

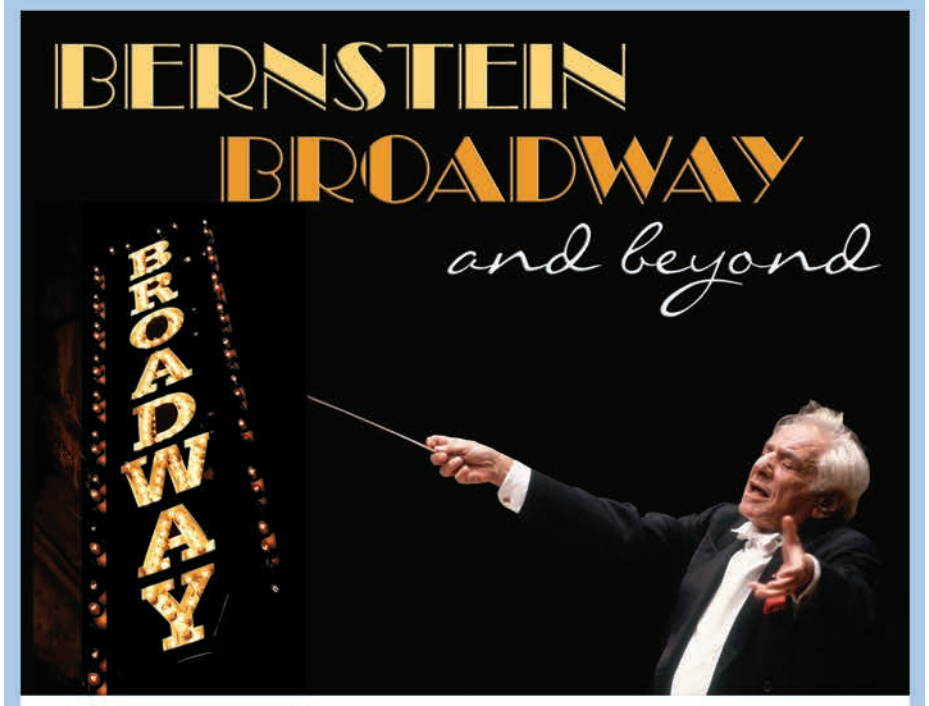
RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (Main Bar and Dining Room)

SANDDOLLAR LOUNGE, WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBYD, 7-10 PM



SINFONIA GULF COAST

DEMETRIUS FULLER ~ MUSIC & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Saturday, March 2 | 7:30 p.m.

Village Baptist Church, Destin

Tickets: $29.50 - $55.00

FEATURING:

Morgan James, *vocalist*

Nicholas Rodriguez, *vocalist*

Jamie Bernstein, *host*

The best of Bernstein's timeless concert and Broadway masterpieces including *West Side Story*, *On the Town* and *Candide* plus more of Broadway's best. Bernstein's daughter Jamie will serve as host for the evening.

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PET OF THE ISSUE

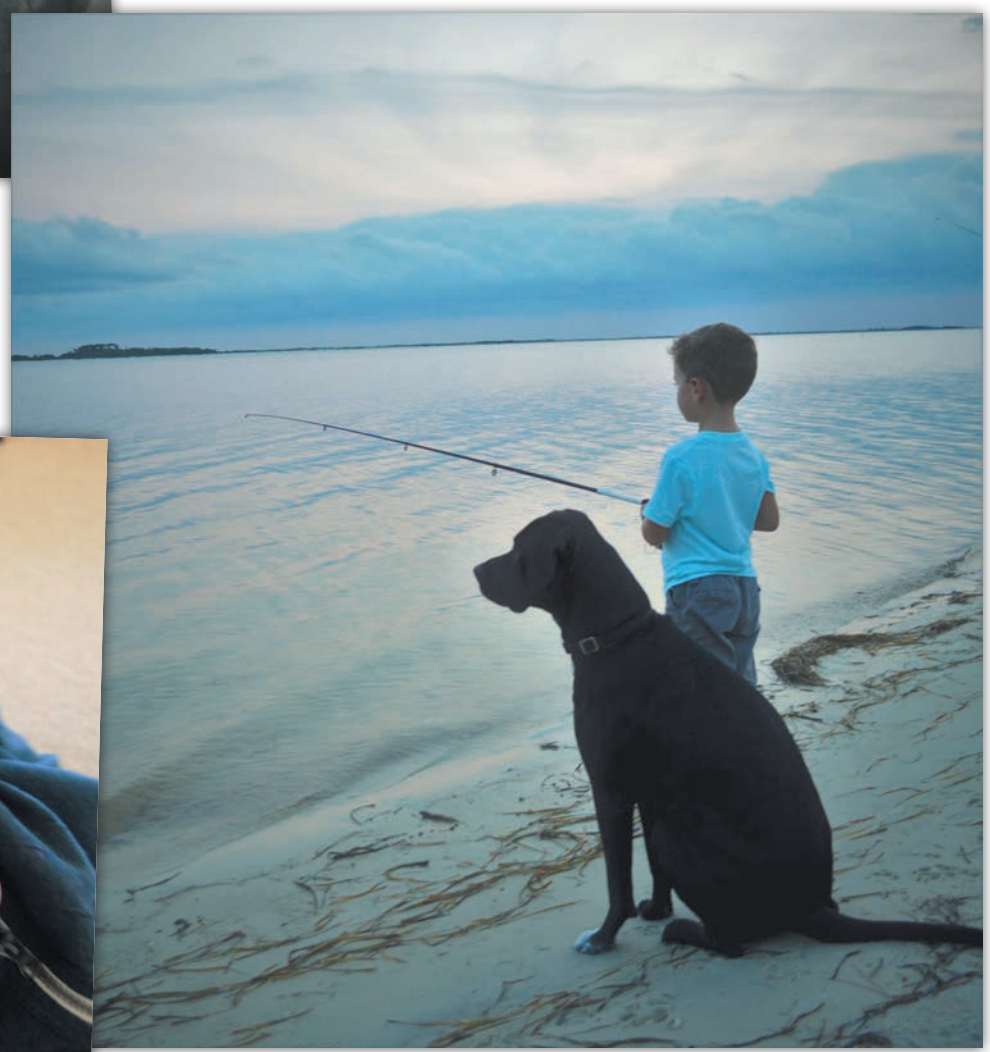
Laika

Submitted by Karla Quast

Karla and her family—Tyndall Air Force Base residents displaced by Hurricane Michael, currently living in Inlet Beach—adopted Laika in 2015 "and she's been my son's best friend ever since."

Laika is a… well, explains Karla, "She's a rescue, so we're not sure. We've asked several vets, and they guess a Lab-Boxer mix." Laika loves to go on walks, cuddle, and play with her favorite raccoon squeaky toy.

"She spends the day protecting her best friend, Michael," says Karla. "Whatever he's doing, she wants to be a part of. She's able to keep 'trolls' and 'bad guys' far away." Other hobbies include searching for toads and sitting and listening to books about Iron Man and Spider-Man.



Laika loves to fish with her dad, run with Mom and play pretend with Michael. She's also a frequent swimmer and dolphin-spotting enthusiast. Say, when does Laika sleep?!

Our Pet of the Issue also enjoys yoga and ab workouts because "everyone is on the floor and she can give us kisses," says Karla.

Submit your best friend(s) for a future Pet of the Issue feature!
Email **chris@beachcomberdestin.com**.

Events

All information is subject to change. Please refer to the contact numbers and/or emails/websites for up-to-the-minute details. Send us your Feb. 14 and beyond events by 5 PM Thursday, **Feb. 7,** *or they will not be in our next issue. Please submit events in the format used here. Photos welcome. Email* **chris@beachcomberdestin.com**.

THROUGH SATURDAY, FEB. 2

BAYTOWNE ON ICE
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin
BaytowneWharf.com
Hours vary daily.

THURSDAY, JAN. 31

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

THURSDAY, JAN. 31-SUNDAY, FEB. 3

LADIES' SUPER BOWL WEEKEND IN ROSEMARY BEACH
Various Locations and Times
RosemaryBeachFoundation.org
The annual "Girls Getaway" includes comedy with **Leanne Morgan,** cooking with **Chef Nihkil,** style with **Mariam Gulistan,** dinner and dancing with **DJ Shane Keller,** a tour of homes, and more.

FRIDAY, FEB. 1

DANCE-EXERCISE
Destin Community Center, Noon-1 PM
An easy, intuitive way to exercise through dance. Movements come from modern dance, yoga and Tai Chi. Stretch, pull, spin…be creative. Robert instructs. Open to men and women of all ages. Cost is $2 for residents, $3 for non-residents.

OKALOOSA ISLAND DANCE PARTY
Emerald Coast Convention Center, Okaloosa Island
OkaloosaIslandDanceParty.com
Live music spanning the '50s through the '80s, food, cash bars, vintage arcade games and pinball machines…all benefiting the **Special Operations Warrior Foundation** and **Air Commando Foundation.** Advance tickets are $15 (buy four, get one FREE!) at Beach Community Bank and the Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce. At-the-door price is $25.

WALTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL GALA AND AWARDS CELEBRATION
Hilton Sandestin Golf Resort & Spa, Miramar Beach, 5:30 PM
850-892-3191
This year's soiree has a Roaring '20s theme. Cost to attend is $75 for individual chamber members, $95 for non-members—includes welcome reception beverage, dinner and live entertainment. Email **gabrielle@waltonareachamber.com** for tickets and sponsorship opportunities.

SATURDAY, FEB. 2

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM
GrandBoulevard.com

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET
Seaside, 8 AM
SeasideFL.com

SUNDAY, FEB. 3

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

MONDAY, FEB. 4

TAI CHI WITH BARBARA REZMER
Destin Library, 9 AM
850-837-8572
Ms. Rezmer is a certified Tai Chi for Health instructor. Cost per class is $5. Limited to 12 participants—call to preregister or drop by the library.

TUESDAY, FEB. 5

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation Board Chairman Jackie Ely presents the Chairman's Sterling Award to Elizabeth Spies.

Photo by Kay Phelan.

INTERNET FOR BEGINNERS
Destin Library, 2 PM
850-837-8572
Technology basics workshop open to any individual with a valid Okaloosa County Library Cooperative card on a first-come, first-served basis.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6

DANCE-EXERCISE
Destin Community Center, Noon-1 PM
An easy, intuitive way to exercise through dance. Movements come from modern dance, yoga and Tai Chi. Stretch, pull, spin…be creative. Robert instructs. Open to men and women of all ages. Cost is $2 for residents, $3 for non-residents.

THURSDAY, FEB. 7

GAL-ENTINE'S SIP & SHOP
Twisted Grape Café and Wine Bar, Shalimar, 5:30-7:30 PM
850-651-5100

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

PRACTICE THE ESPERE WITH CHRISTINE SALOME
HH Arts, Fort Walton Beach, 6-9 PM
850-218-2155
Learn the recreational tools for a living communication with a certified practitioner and facilitator of the method recognized by the International ESPERE Institute in Paris. Cost is $35 per class. Advance registration required—call or email **Christine.salome@mchsi.com.**

FRIDAY, FEB. 8

"ALL ABOUT THE HAMMERED DULCIMER" FREE LECTURE
Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso, Noon
850-678-2615
Bring a lunch and enjoy **Ellen Sheppard's** entertaining and educational presentation. Space is limited—call to reserve your spot.

DANCE-EXERCISE
Destin Community Center, Noon-1 PM
An easy, intuitive way to exercise through dance. Movements come from modern dance, yoga and Tai Chi. Stretch, pull, spin…be creative. Robert instructs. Open to men and women of all ages. Cost is $2 for residents, $3 for non-residents.

FRIDAY, FEB. 8-SUNDAY, FEB. 10

"LA LUMIERE: PARTY OF THE GODS"
Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort and Spa
www.hannahmartinsparty.com
This is **Hannah Martin's** fifth annual birthday fundraiser, benefiting **South Walton Academy, Special Olympics – Walton County,** and **Westonwood Ranch.** Events include a newly added VIP dinner Friday night, live auction, and a decadent party in the Emerald Ballroom with live music and aerial entertainment. Sponsorships available—email **Hannah@jbhproperties.com.**

SATURDAY, FEB. 9

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM
GrandBoulevard.com

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET
Seaside, 8 AM
SeasideFL.com

SIP & SCIENCE
Emerald Coast Science Center, Fort Walton Beach, 6-9 PM
Sip-and-science.eventbrite.com
Bring your (21 and older) friends, grab a drink, and unleash your inner scientist. Tickets are $20 ($25 for ECSC members).

"TOP HATS & TAILS: A CAUSE FOR CLAWS"
The Island Hotel, Okaloosa Island, 6-9 PM
Saveourcatsandkittens.com
Fundraiser for **Save Our Cats and Kittens** (SOCKS) with guest speaker **Kate MacFall,** the director of the Florida Humane Society. Plus—dining, silent auctions, and live music by **Christina Alconcel.** Tickets are $60 per person.

VOLUNTEER EDUCATOR TRAINING
Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso, 10 AM
850-678-2615
Help save history. The museum seeks retired teachers, college students and individuals seeking volunteer or internship hours. Call to reserve your spot.

SUNDAY, FEB. 10

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

TROPICAL RE-UNION WEDDING VOW RENEWAL
Lucy Buffett's LuLu's, Destin, 2 PM
www.lulubuffett.com/destin

Photo by Kay Phelan.

Celebrate your enduring love and commitment! Registration begins at 11 AM, followed by the complimentary renewal ceremony performed by **Hurricane Jane Carver** at 2 PM. Couples can preregister online, too. Enjoy a champagne toast, wedding cake, flowers for the brides, and Certificates of Reunion for each couple. Plus prizes! Call 850-710-5858 for more info.

MONDAY, FEB. 11

MAKE FRIENDS WITH YOUR BROWSER
Destin Library, 10 AM
850-837-8572
Web literacy presentation open to any individual with a valid Okaloosa County Library Cooperative card on a first-come, first-served basis.

Events

TAI CHI WITH BARBARA REZMER
Destin Library, 9 AM
850-837-8572
Ms. Rezmer is a certified Tai Chi for Health instructor. Cost per class is $5. Limited to 12 participants—call to preregister or drop by the library.

TUESDAY, FEB. 12

"CIVIL RIGHTS – HOW FAR HAVE WE COME?"
Destin Library, 2 PM
850-837-8572

The Friends Guild of the Destin Library presents a FREE program focusing on life in Birmingham, Alabama, at the time of the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing that inspired an electrifying speech by attorney Charles Morgan Jr. Moderators are **Pam Horowitz,** Mr. Morgan's former law associate, current Southern Poverty Law Center board member, and wife of civil rights icon Julian Bond; **Camille Morgan,** local resident and wife of the late Mr. Morgan; and beloved area restaurateur (and *Beachcomber* columnist) **Charles Morgan III.**

For more info, email
friendsofthedestinlibrary@gmail.com.

FLIGHT NIGHT
Twisted Grape Café and Wine Bar, Shalimar, 5 PM-Close
850-651-5100
Enjoy $2 off wine flights and all the sights and sounds of our favorite Shalimar spot.

KIDS' VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFTS
Destin Library, 3-7 PM
850-837-8572
Children ages 5 and under (and their parents) are invited to create a special Valentine's Day craft for that special someone. FREE!

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

"WOMAN WITTY & WIZE" MEETING
Twisted Grape Café and Wine Bar, Shalimar, 11:30 AM
850-651-5100

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13

DANCE-EXERCISE
Destin Community Center, Noon-1 PM
An easy, intuitive way to exercise through dance. Movements come from modern dance, yoga and Tai Chi. Stretch, pull, spin…be creative. Robert instructs. Open to men and women of all ages. Cost is $2 for residents, $3 for non-residents.

THURSDAY, FEB. 14

KIDS' VALENTINE'S DAY STORY TIME
Destin Library, 9:30 AM
850-837-8572
For children ages 5 and under (and their parents)—music, stories and Valentine's activities. FREE!

VALENTINE'S DINNER
Twisted Grape Café and Wine Bar, Shalimar, 5-9 PM
850-651-5100
Dinner and wine pairing for just $75 per couple, plus live music by **Michael Bethea.** Reservations required.

FRIDAY, FEB. 15

SPEAK FRENCH WITH CHRISTINE
HH Arts, Fort Walton Beach, 3-4 PM or 6-7 PM
850-218-2155
Discover the language and culture with a noted photographer and artist born and raised in France. Cost is $25 per hour or 10 lessons for $225 (additional dates TBA). Call to register.

FRIDAY, FEB. 15-SATURDAY, FEB. 16

THE 30TH ANNUAL SANDESTIN GUMBO FESTIVAL
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, Starts at 5 PM Friday, Noon-4 PM Saturday
www.sandestingumbofestival.com
Sample a variety of gumbo and vote for the People's Choice award. Celebrity judges name the area's best, and **Dikki Du and the Zydeco Krewe** perform. Plus—children's activities and a "Best Bloody Mary on the Beach" competition.

SUNDAY, FEB. 17

"ART IS NOURISHMENT: A BENEFIT FOR DESTIN HARVEST"
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin, 10 AM-3 PM
850-337-8860
Live music, art and great food (plus all-day happy hour!) benefiting the local hunger relief and food rescue nonprofit. Learn more at **www.destinharvest.org.**

Congrats to Mossy Head Elementary's Meredith Ness, who was recently awarded Walton County School District Teacher of the Year, and Eddie Farris of Freeport Elementary, named Walton County School District Educational Support Professional of the Year.
Photo submitted by Congressman Matt Gaetz.

Beachside Worship Services

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION EPISCOPAL CHURCH UECNA 1928 Book of Common Prayer Service, 10 AM Sundays, communion service second and fourth Sundays, morning prayer, first and third Sundays. 66 8th Street, Shalimar, 850-651-9800.

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH Mass schedule (through Sept. 30)—Sunday, 8 AM and 10:30 AM; Saturday, confessions from 4 to 4:30 PM, mass at 5 PM; daily mass Monday through Friday, 8 AM; First Friday Adoration, 8:30-9:30 AM; First Saturday Mass, 8 AM Holy Days of Obligation, 8 AM and 6:30 PM 307 Beach Drive, Destin.

DESTIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Sunday services—7:30 AM beach services at Henderson Beach State Park, Destin Crab Trap, and the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk; 9:30 AM Xalt service (contemporary) at Destin Life Center; 9:30 AM harbor worship service at Brotula's in Destin; 11 AM traditional service at the Sanctuary; 5:30 PM sunset beach service at Henderson Beach State Park. Call 850-837-2021 or visit **DestinUMC.org**.

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH Sunday worship services: 8:45 and 11 AM Nursery and children's church is available. Wednesday bible study at 7 PM Located at 306 S. Geronimo St. in Miramar Beach, three blocks west of Silver Sands Outlet Mall. 850-837-7561.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DESTIN Sunday bible study at 9:15 AM, worship service at 10:30 AM, prayer group at 5 PM Wednesday supper at 6 PM, followed by youth-kids programs and bible study at 6:30. 201 Beach Drive, 850-837-6515.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SEAGROVE Sunday services at 10 AM and Wednesdays at 6 PM 4915 E Hwy. 30A, Seagrove, 850-231-2884.

GOOD NEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Sunday services 8:50 AM, traditional worship 9:45 AM Sunday school, 11 AM, contemporary worship, 4747 Hwy 98W, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-9191.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Sunday worship service, 9:30 AM Sunday school for kids, confirmation class for youth, and adult bible study, 10:45 AM 4325 Commons Drive, Destin, 850-654-1679.

HOPE ON THE BEACH Beach worship at 8 AM at Ed Walline Beach, across from Gulf Place; and at Inlet Beach, at the Orange Street beach access. Worship at 9:30 AM at Shunk Gulley Oyster Bar, on the corner of 393 and 30A. And worship at 11 AM at our 98 Church Campus, at 3834 U.S. 98 W, Santa Rosa Beach. For more information, call 850-267-0322 or email **pastorj@hopeonthebeach.org**.

NICEVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST Sunday bible study at 9 AM, worship at 10 AM. Sunday evening service, 5 PM. Mid-week bible study Wednesdays at 7 PM. 801 John Sims Parkway East, Niceville. 850-678-2911.

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH Saturday vigil mass, 5 PM; Sunday masses, 8 and 10:30 AM; Daily liturgies, Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM; Holy Days of Obligation, 8:30 AM and 6 PM; Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Fridays, 9-10 AM; Confessions, Saturdays, 4-4:45 PM or by appointment. 259 Miramar Beach Dr., Destin, 850-837-0358.

SAFE HARBOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Sunday school at 9:30 AM, worship service at 10:30. 801 Airport Road, Destin, 850-837-2133.

SAINT RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH Saturday Vigil mass at 5:30 PM year round. Sunday services at 8 AM, 10 AM and 5 PM Holy Day services, call the office please. 137 Moll Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, just off U.S. 98. 850-267-2558. **www.saintritaparish.org.**

SANTA ROSA COMMUNITY CHURCH Interdenominational service 10 AM Sundays. 3524 Hwy. 98W, 850-267-7599.

SHORELINE CHURCH Non-denominational Sunday services at 8:30, 10 and 11:30 AM Check out our new location at 140 Palmetto Street in Destin, in the old Nightown building. **www.shorelinechurch.net.**

ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH Service at 10 AM Sundays. 307 Hwy. 98E, Destin, 850-650-2737

ST. MARKELLA & DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH Sunday service at 10 AM 400 Hwy. 98E, Mary Esther, 850-244-0822.

ST. SIMON'S ON THE SOUND EPISCOPAL CHURCH Sunday services at 8 and 10:30 AM and 5 PM 28 Hwy. 98W, FWB, 850-244-8621.

VILLAGE BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday services at 9 and 10:30 AM 101 Matthew one block south of Hwy. 98E, Destin, 850-837-8107.

Striking While the Iron Is Hot

By Samantha Lambert

Blacksmithing began during the Iron Age, around 1200 B.C., when people across much of Europe, Asia and parts of Africa began making tools and weapons from iron and steel. A blacksmith—also called a smith—was a craftsman whose job was to make things by hand out of metal that had been heated to a high temperature over a forge. The forge was used by the blacksmith to heat a piece of metal to a temperature where it becomes soft enough to shape by hammering on it.

According to a September 2016 *Washington Post* article: "The revival of handcrafted metalwork is reflected in the increasing number of blacksmiths across the country. Since 1973, the Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America has grown from 92 members to 4,087 today."

Christopher Sandlin, David Sandlin and Billy Hay.

Locally, Master Craftsman **David Sandlin** is playing a role in the revival of blacksmithing with his business Traditions Workshop. Sandlin, who is retired from the military, opened Traditions Workshop in November 2017. "Growing up, I was always tinkering and building. I was a carpenter's aide to my dad when I was twelve," he tells *Beachcomber.*

Traditions Workshop is dedicated to the passing on of their craft skills. When apprentices and journeymen (workers who have learned a trade and work for another person) come to the shop, they experience the Scandinavian concept of Slöjd, Slöjd is the time-honored practice of handcraft using traditional tools to create objects for everyday use in and around the home. The workshop is a hybrid shop where power tools can be found as well as planes, saws, scrapers, adzes, needles and thread.

Traditions Workshop is an extended family business. Sandlin's son Christopher is a Journeyman Blacksmith and Woodturner. His daughter Jessica is a Journeyman dressmaker and designer of band saw boxes. Sandlin's wife of 29 years, Anna, is a painter and a seamstress. Billy Hay is a Journeyman Blacksmith who is expanding his craftsman skills to furniture restoration and repair. Hay's wife Jennifer adds woodburning to the set of skills in the shop.

Sandlin and Hay are members of the Florida Artists Blacksmithing Association (FABA) Panhandle Chapter. They will host the January and February meetings on the fourth Saturdays of each month. Anyone is welcome at the FABA meetings. FABA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to teaching and preserving the art and craft of the blacksmith. First formed in 1984, FABA is an affiliate of the Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America (ABANA).

Traditions Workshop offers an Introduction to Blacksmithing class at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida in Valparaiso which covers basic forge techniques, hammer control, safety and teamwork. This class is required before you can attend other classes or make use of open forge time. If you want to have access to a blacksmithing studio, Traditions Workshop offers "Forge on Friday" twice a month. Class projects include a fire poker and a set of tongs.

Traditions Workshop also works with Rocky Bayou Christian School students during their "JAN" term, where they come to the shop for one week of intensive blacksmithing. Students make hooks and nails, belt buckles and bottle openers. "It's about experiencing real life in business," says Sandlin.

"We are old school. Our shop opens up opportunities for people to experience traditional craftwork. It's exciting because you can't really experience this in school anymore."

The Tradition Workshop Folk School classes at the Heritage Museum include Introduction to Blacksmithing, Introduction to Woodturning, Forge on Friday, and Introduction to Timber Framing. Participants must be 12 years of age. For more information, visit **www.traditionsworkshop.com.**

The shop is located at 418 Green Acres Road in Fort Walton Beach.

Billy and Chris in action.

Handcrafted nails.

Beachcomberland Places

ANTIQUES

DE FRANCE ANTIQUES & FLEA MKT. with over 80+ vendors, lots of unique items to choose from. 230 S.E. Eglin Pkwy. 850-314-7500.

SMITH'S ANTIQUES MALL & INTERIORS MARKET 25,000 sq. ft. and 94 vetted dealers have made Smith's the favorite with decorators, locals and tourists for over 20 years. Voted Best of the Emerald Coast for 14 consecutive years, Finest on the Emerald Coast, and Best in Destin…need we say more? Mon.-Sat., 10 AM-6 PM; Sun., 11 AM-5 PM 12500 Emerald Coast Parkway, Miramar Beach (near Silver Sands). 850-654-1484. **www.smithsantiquesmall.com.**

EDUCATIONAL

EMERALD COAST SCIENCE CENTER A unique museum allowing visitors to touch and use the exhibits, including optical illusions, a nature room and a wind tunnel. 31 SW Memorial Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, 850-664-1261. **www.ecscience.org.**

FARMERS MARKETS

30A FARMERS MARKETS Two convenient locations. Contact Diane at 850-499-4697 for more info.

- **GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS' MARKET AT SANDESTIN** 600 Grand Boulevard, Miramar Beach. Saturdays year-round, 9 AM-1 PM
- **30A FARMERS' MARKET IN ROSEMARY BEACH COMMUNITY** Sundays year-round, 9 AM-1 PM Thursdays (Memorial Day through Labor Day), 9 AM-1 PM

GOLF

REGATTA BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB This award-winning 18-hole course offers an extraordinary golfing experience for players of all skill levels and was named one of *Golf Digest's* Top Places to Play. Equipment rental available. 465 Regatta Bay Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8080. **www.regattabay.com.**

SANTA ROSA GOLF & BEACH CLUB Referred to as the "Purest golf in the Florida Panhandle" by *Golf* Magazine, this 18-hole, par 72 course offers five sets of tees and a challenge for every skill level of handicap. Situated on 80 pristine acres in the heart of Santa Rosa Beach, this course has a unique character only found around the Highway 30A corridor. Holes three through five wind around a complex of dunes, all within a few hundred yards of the Gulf of Mexico. Dining, driving range, putting green and club rentals available. 334 Golf Club Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2229. **www.santarosaclub.com.**

MARINE PARKS/ AQUARIUMS

GULFARIUM MARINE ADVENTURE PARK Delight in watching dolphins leap and sea lions play during spectacular shows! Or participate and interact directly with these and other remarkable marine animals including stingrays, seals and penguins during interactive programming (advance reservations required). Enjoy educational exhibits and beautiful Gulf views. Open daily at 9 AM 1010 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-243-9046. **www.gulfarium.com.**

MUSEUMS

DESTIN HISTORY & FISHING MUSEUM Open year round, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM Call for holiday hours of operation. Admission is $5 for adults, $4 for seniors and military and $3 for children. 108 Stahlman Avenue, Destin, 850-837-6611.

INDIAN TEMPLE MOUND MUSEUM Artifacts and displays showing the rich Indian history of this area. 139 Hwy. 98SE, FWB, 850-833-9595.

MUSIC STORES

FW VINTAGE RECORDS Full service record store with over 20,000 vintage vinyl records and new music releases on vinyl. Audio systems, CDs, cassettes, record cleaning supplies, posters, pins, phono cartridges. Gift certificates, rewards program and limited repair service for turntables, speakers and receivers. Open Mondays and Wed.-Sun., 11 AM-7 PM; Tuesdays, 11 AM to 4:30 PM. 217 Racetrack Road NW, Fort Walton Beach, 850-384-6654. **www.fortwaltonvintagerecords.com**

LEITZ MUSIC Guitars, bass, drums and keyboards, plus recording, DJ and PA equipment. Sales, repairs and lessons. Gibson, Fender, PRS, Taylor, Martin, Ibanez and more. Open Mon.-Sat. 10 AM-7 PM, Sundays noon-5 PM Located in Uptown Station, Fort Walton Beach, 850-863-1099. **www.facebook.com/LeitzMusicFWB.**

PARKS & PUBLIC BEACH ACCESS

BEASLEY WAYSIDE PARK Picnic tables, public beach area, barbecue grills, bathhouse, and restrooms. Gulf side of Okaloosa Island, Hwy. 98W.

BLACKWATER RIVER STATE PARK NW of FWB off Hwy. 90. You can catch sight of lots of wildlife while camping, canoeing, hiking, and fishing. Milton, 850-983-5363.

BLUE MOUNTAIN BEACH Public parking for this access is located at the south end of CR-83 and Scenic Highway 30-A.

BRACKIN WAYSIDE PARK Gulf side of Okaloosa Island on Hwy. 98W. Facilities include restaurants, saloons, children's playground, beach volleyball, three beach accesses, showers, public restrooms, and picnic table.

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK offers hiking, birding, beachcombing, swimming, fishing, canoeing and kayaking along with nine historic buildings. Located at 23937 Panama City Beach Parkway (U.S. 98), 12 miles east of 331, seven miles west of Highway 79. 850-233-5059.

CESSNA BAY Picnic tables, parking, rest rooms and boat access. 1476 N. CR-393.

CLEMENT E. TAYLOR CITY PARK This park is named after one of Destin's early settlers and is on Choctawhatchee Bay. Chock full of shade trees, there are picnic areas and restrooms, but no camping. Destin, off Calhoun Avenue.

DUNE ALLEN In Dune Allen beach this access has parking, but no bathrooms, showers or picnic area. 5753 Hwy 30-A W., Santa Rosa Beach.

ED WALLINE A large public beach access in South Walton, providing handicapped parking, picnic tables, restrooms and showers. Intersection of Hwy 30-A and CR-393.

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK An historic homestead under majestic, moss-draped oaks with a home surrounded by lawns and seasonal gardens. Tours of the home are Thursday through Monday hourly beginning at 10 AM with the last tour at 3 PM The park and picnic areas are open daily from 8 AM to sunset and located on CR-395 north off Hwy 98 in Point Washington. Call 850-231-4214 for more information.

GRAYTON BEACH STATE RECREATION AREA Camping, picnics, hiking, swimming, saltwater fishing, and boating. Showers and electricity are part of the amenities. Access from S. Hwy. 30-A, South Walton, 850-267-8300.

GRAYTON DUNES Handicapped and public parking plus beach access. Behind the Red Bar in Grayton Beach.

GULF SHORE MANOR Public restrooms, handicapped and public parking. 3468 E. Hwy 30-A, Seagrove Beach.

GULFVIEW HEIGHTS Located at the end of Gulfview Heights St, behind Goatfeather's restaurant, this access offers parking, picnic areas and restrooms.

HENDERSON BEACH STATE PARK This park has it all: camping, swimming area sheltered picnic areas, grills, and restrooms. But there is no boat ramp and jet skis and other personal watercraft are prohibited. 17000 Hwy. 98W, Destin, 850-837-7550.

INLET BEACH This area offers handicapped and public parking, restrooms and dune walkovers to the beach. 438 S. Orange St. in Inlet Beach.

LEGION BAY Picnic tables, public parking, boat ramp and restrooms. Intersection of Ponce de Leon and Crest Dr, 191 Crest Dr, Sandestin.

MARLER MEMORIAL PARK Public beach area, picnic tables, barbecue grills, boat ramp, restrooms and bathhouse. Bay side of Okaloosa Island, off Santa Rosa Blvd.

MIRAMAR BEACH ACCESS Parking with public beach access. Scenic Hwy 98 and Driftwood Road, adjacent to Pompano Joe's.

TOPSAIL HILL PRESERVE STATE PARK offers a wide variety of natural resources, including 3.2 miles of public beach access with majestic dunes over 25 feet tall. Our 1,600 acre preserve includes rare coastal dune lakes, old-growth long leaf pines and sand pine scrub, and a variety of wetlands offer a bird watching and hiking paradise. Visitors may bike, walk,or enjoy a quick ride to the beach on our timely tram service to swim, fish, sunbathe or beachcomb. Topsail Hill offers weekly ranger programs for all visitors to enjoy. A park store offers a variety of camping items, as well as souvenirs and bike, kayak, canoe and SUP rentals. Topsail Hill offers weekly ranger programs for all visitors to enjoy. Gregory E. Moore RV resort features a (non-heated) swimming pool and shuffleboard courts. Furnished bungalows are available for weekly stays. 7525 West County Highway 30A Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-8330. **www.floridastateparks.org/topsailhill.**

TUMBLING, ETC.

BEACH ELITE CHEER AND TUMBLE Here visiting and need to work on your tumbling skills? Just a short 15-minute drive from Destin in the heart of Fort Walton Beach, Beach Elite Cheer and Tumble is the only cheerleading and tumbling facility for ages 3 to 18 in the area. If you're looking for something fun and different to do, let our experienced and nationally certified staff help you out. Try a tumbling class for a $15 drop-in fee, or open gym every Friday from 6:30 to 10 PM with dinner included for only $15. For more information, visit **beachelitecheerleading.com,** call 850-362-6459, or email **info@beachelitecheerleading.com.** We hope to see you soon! **#GoodVibes**

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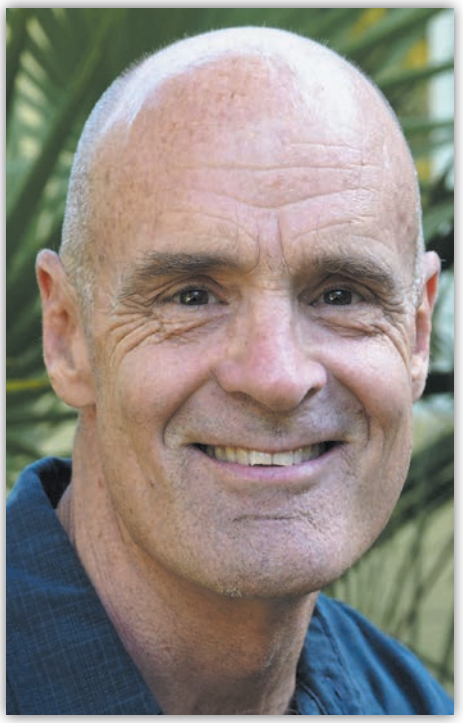
Pulitzer-Winning Author to Speak in Niceville



Jack E. Davis will give a talk on his Pulitzer Prize-winning book *The Gulf* on Monday, **Feb. 4,** at 7 PM in the Sprint Theater at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center in Niceville. The event will feature an introduction by Commissioner Kelly Windes and Northwest Florida State College President Dr. Devin Stephenson. Book proceeds and donations benefit the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance.

Dr. Davis is a professor of history specializing in environmental history and sustainability studies. Before joining the faculty at the University of Florida in 2003, he taught at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and Eckerd College, and in 2002 was a Fulbright scholar at the University of Jordan in Amman.

Upon joining the faculty at UF, he founded the department's student journal, *Alpata: A Journal of History*. His *Race Against Time: Culture and Separation in Natchez Since 1930* won the Charles S. Sydnor Prize for the best book in southern history published in 2001. His next book, *An Everglades Providence: Marjory Stoneman Douglas and the American Environmental Century* (2009), received a gold medal from the Florida Book Awards.

The Gulf was a *New York Times* Notable Book for 2017 and made several other best-of lists for the year, including the *Washington Post*, NPR, *Forbes* and the *Tampa Bay Times*. In addition to winning the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for History, *The Gulf* was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award for nonfiction and winner of the Kirkus Prize for nonfiction.

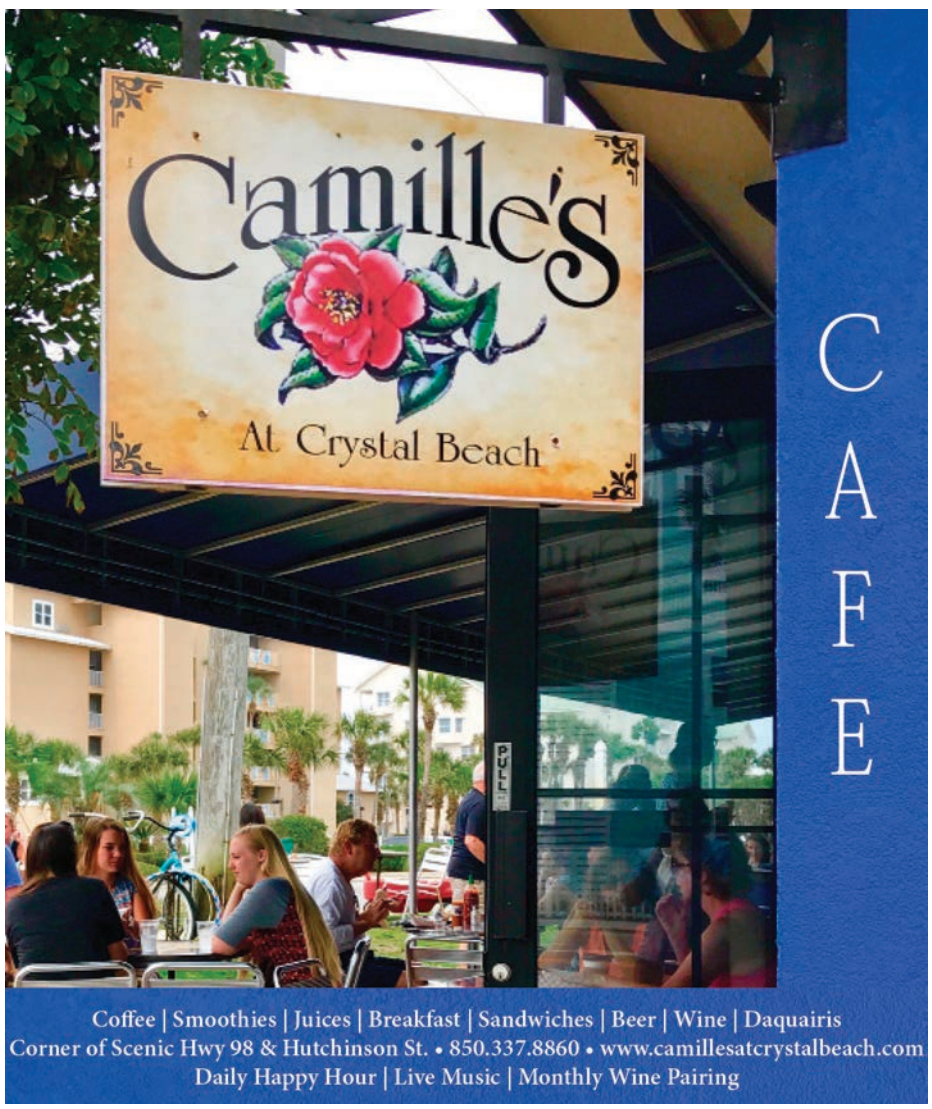
"The book focuses on the foundational history and ecology that has shaped our region as a whole," says CBA director **Alison McDowell.** "As a nonprofit organization dedicated to studying and improving our natural environment, we are looking forward to meeting Dr. Davis and will use the proceeds from the event to enhance swimmable, fishable waterways in our community."

The event is made possible through a generous gift from Jennifer Boxen.

Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance strives to enhance swimmable, fishable waterways through monitoring, education, restoration and research. For over 20 years, CBA has promoted water stewardship within the Choctawhatchee watershed, growing the network of supporters who join in CBA's mission to provide a future for these precious, natural resources.

- Erika Zambello

Editor's Note: *Jack E. Davis will also be appearing the following evening in Pensacola. Find out more at* **wsre.org.**



Book Clubs

THURSDAY, FEB. 7

ADSO BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
The Art Center, Fort Walton Beach, 5-6 PM
artsdesignsociety.org
The discussion is based on Steven Pressfield's *War of Art: Break Through the Blocks and Win Your Inner Creative Battles.* Anyone interested in talking about creativity is welcome.

TUESDAY, FEB. 12

BOOK LOVERS CLUB
Walton County Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 AM
850-267-2809
The club meets on the second Tuesday of the month through May 2019. No registration required, and all interested parties are welcome. This season's list includes Christina Baker Kline's *A Piece of the World,* Kristen Hannah's *The Great Alone,* John Steinbeck's *Travels with Charlie,* Lisa Wingate's *Before We Were Yours,* Celeste Ng's *Little Fires Everywhere,* David Grann's *Killing of the Flower Moon,* Mitch Albom's *The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto,* Jodi Picoult's *Small Great Things,* and Helen Simonson's *The Summer Before the War.*

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20

ALL ABOUT BOOKS
Mary Esther Public Library, 10 AM
850-243-5731

THURSDAY, FEB. 28

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB
Mary Esther Public Library, 3:30 PM
850-243-5731

Upcoming Books

JAN. 31

Lawrence Block, ***A Time to Scatter Stones***

FEB. 1

Barry Eisler, ***The Killer Collective***

FEB. 5

Jennie Allen, ***Made for This: 40 Days to Living Your Purpose***

Lorraine Cink, ***Marvel: Powers of a Girl***

Geoff Edgers, ***Walk This Way: Run-DMC, Aerosmith, and the Song That Changed American Music Forever***

Tom Hunt, ***One Fatal Mistake***

Maria Popova, ***Figuring***

FEB. 12

Jill Abramson, ***Merchants of Truth: The Business of News and the Fight for Facts***

Pete Buttigieg, ***Shortest Way Home: One Mayor's Challenge and a Model for America's Future***

Charles Cumming, ***The Moroccan Girl***

Tosha Silver, ***It's Not Your Money: How to Live Fully from Divine Abundance***

Dr. Mariza Snyder, ***The Essential Oils Hormone Solution***

FEB. 14

Taylor Dayne with Dave Smitherman, ***Tell It to My Heart: How I Lost My Shit, Conquered My Fear, and Found My Voice***

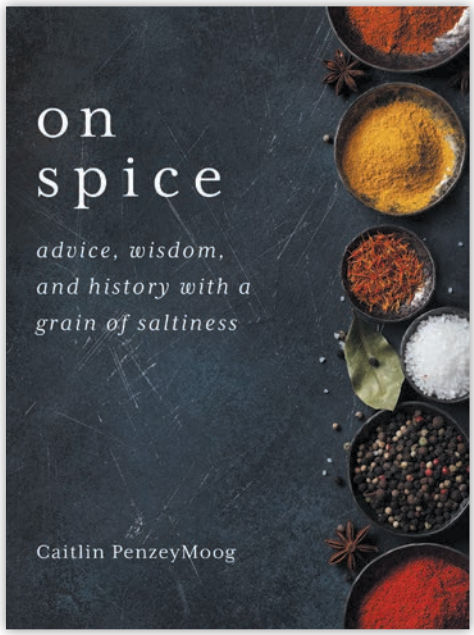
Sources: Netgalley.com, Amazon.com, Pauseandplay.com

Recommended Reading

Caitlin PenzeyMoog

On Spice: Advice, Wisdom and History with a Grain of Saltiness

Skyhorse Publishing



Spice-lovers know the name "Penzey." The family has built a well-recognized spice business, with online service and storefront outlets nationwide. Caitlin PenzeyMoog's *On Spice* is part family memoir, part history, and part reference. There are even recipes. Spices are presented by group, and PenzeyMoog gives a rundown of background, origin and characteristics. There's trivia (what's the *second* most expensive spice in the world?) and a pinch of social commentary—the history of spice is as full of blood and exploitation as the diamond trade. She also explodes some cherished food-snob myths. Remember: all salt is salt, just different colors.

- Bruce Collier

EDITOR'S CHOICE

James Lee Burke

The New Iberia Blues

Simon & Schuster

The latest in the Dave Robicheaux series finds the Louisiana detective (and Vietnam veteran) (and recovering alcoholic) investigating a series of gruesome homicides with an attractive young female partner. Also figuring in are an escaped convict, a movie crew, and a blues singer who captures Robicheaux's fancy. At 400-plus pages, it'll take you a while to finish… Mr. Burke's prose is so colorful you'll want to double back and reread every sentence.

Michael Harvey

Pulse

Ecco

A high school student finds himself at the center of a murder investigation, and he's got a lot floating around inside his troubled mind. The 1970s, Massachusetts-set thriller is a little draggy at times, but stick around for the mind-blowing climax.

- Chris Manson

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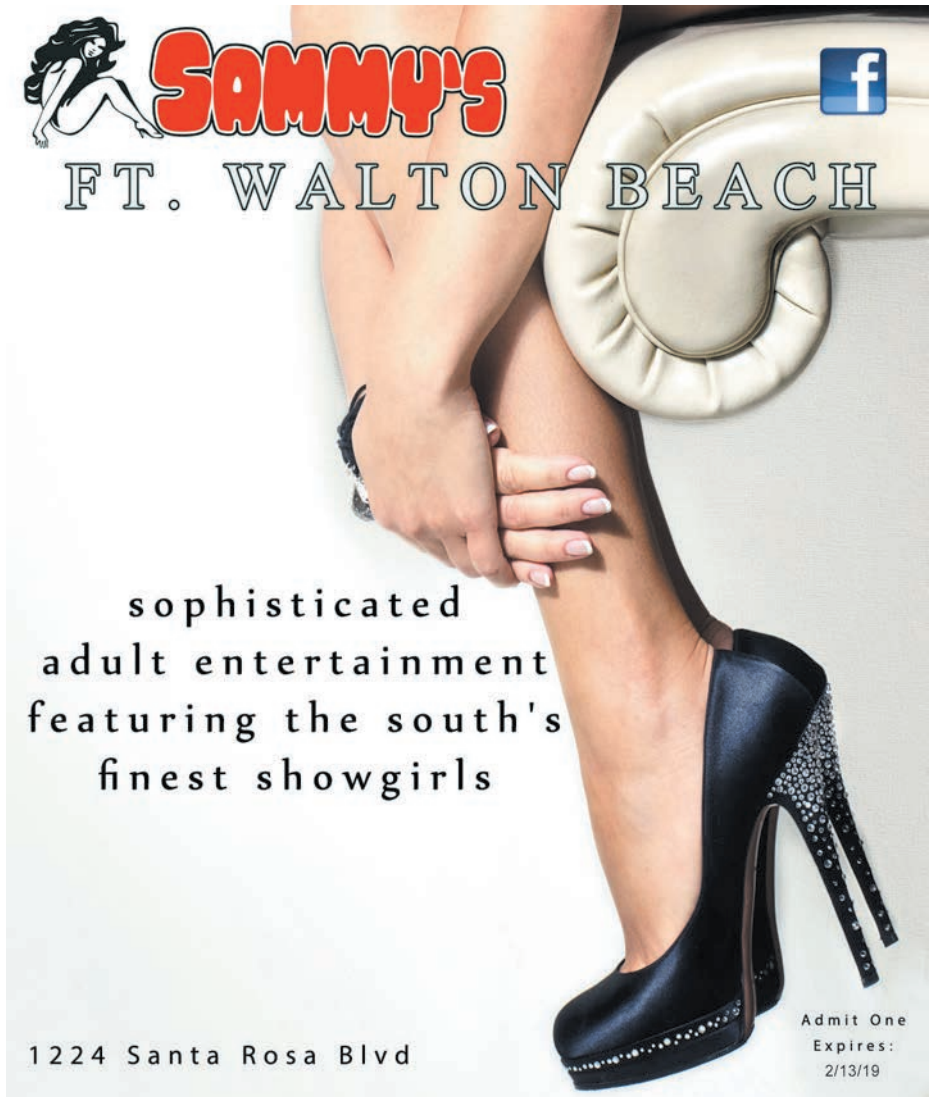

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Reviews

The Hate U Give

Directed by George Tillman Jr.
DVD, Blu-ray, On Demand

No 2018 film does a better job at delineating white privilege, police brutality, and the transformative power of nonviolence. It does this by putting us in the shoes of Starr (the exhilarating Amandla Stenberg), who has to live in two different worlds of race/class and perform the constructed codes of each. When her close friend, Khalil (Algee Smith), is shot and killed by a white policeman during a routine traffic stop, Starr also clearly sees the privileged, unjust nature of our criminal justice system.

The Kindergarten Teacher

Directed by Sara Colangelo
Netflix

A troubling, thought-provoking film that feels out the boundaries between nurturing/obsession, art/materialism, truth/practicality. Maggie Gyllenhaal may be the only American actress who could pull off the role of Lisa Spinelli, a kindergarten teacher who discovers that one of her students (Parker Sevak) is a master poet living in an indifferent world of banal consumerism. Is it even possible to nurture a Mozart in such a world?

UPCOMING DVD/BLU-RAY/ VOD RELEASES

JAN. 31

Bad Reputation. Documentary about rock 'n roll great Joan Jett. (Hulu)

Love, Gilda. A wonderful tribute to the original Not Ready for Prime Time Player, originally broadcast on CNN. (Hulu)

FEB. 5

The Girl in the Spider's Web. The second film in the (American) trilogy has new faces in front of and behind the camera, so of course it's a huge disappointment.

A Private War. Rosamund Pike as a war correspondent.

Widows. Steve McQueen's acclaimed crime flick, with Viola Davis, Elizabeth Debicki, Michelle Rodriguez, Cynthia Erivo, Robert Duvall and Liam Neeson.

FEB. 12

Bohemian Rhapsody. Golden Globe winner Rami Malek as Freddie Mercury.

Overlord. American paratroopers take on Nazis and get more than they bargained for.

A Star Is Born. Bradley Cooper, Lady Gaga.

Source: Metacritic.com

Eighth Grade

Directed by Bo Burnham
Amazon Prime

A film that puts you in the shoes of an 8th grade girl (Elsie Fisher), with all of the awkwardness, anxiety and bad music that entails.

- Dr. David C. Simmons

OPENING SOON IN THEATERS

FEB. 1

Miss Bala. Gina Rodriguez is drawn into the world of cross-border crime. Directed by Catherine Hardwicke.

FEB. 8

Cold Pursuit. Liam Neeson, Laura Dern, William Forsythe.

The LEGO Movie 2: The Second Part. Animated.

The Prodigy. Thriller with Taylor Schilling as the mother of a young boy who starts exhibiting, um, "disturbing" behavior.

What Men Want. Taraji P. Henson, Tracy Morgan, Shaquille O'Neal, Brian Bosworth, Pete Davidson.

Source: Metacritic.com

LOCAL FILM SCREENINGS

MONDAY, FEB. 4

"THE HELP"
Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 6:30 PM

Viola Davis and Emma Stone in Tate Taylor's crowd-pleasing adaptation of Kathryn Stockett's novel. The Northwest Florida State College Film Club partners with the African American Student Association for this FREE screening.

TUESDAY, FEB. 5

"LIKE WATER FOR CHOCOLATE"
The REP Theatre, Seaside, 6 PM
LoveTheREP.com

Alfonso Arau's immortal classic, based on the novel by Laura Esquivel. Come celebrate the enduring love of Pedro and Tita.

Tickets are $12.50 ($10 for REP members). The REP folks are promising popcorn and chocolate.

TUESDAY, FEB. 19

"THE BOOK THIEF"
Destin Library, 2 PM
850-837-8572

Geoffrey Rush, Emily Watson and Sophie Nelisse star in Brian Percival's 2013 film, based on the popular novel by Markus Zusak. FREE! Presented by the Friends Guild of the Destin Library.

DESTIN EAST PASS TIDE AND SUNSET CHART

1.31	Sunrise	6:38am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:22pm	Low	5:29am
	Moon	22%	High	6:58pm
2.1	Sunrise	6:37am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:22pm	Low	6:18am
	Moon	14%	High	7:50pm
2.2	Sunrise	6:36am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:23pm	Low	7:02am
	Moon	8%	High	8:39pm
2.3	Sunrise	6:36am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:24pm	Low	7:40am
	Moon	3%	High	9:21pm
2.4	Sunrise	6:35am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:25pm	Low	8:09am
	Moon	1%	High	9:57pm
2.5	Sunrise	6:34am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:26pm	Low	8:30am
	Moon	0%	High	10:30pm
2.6	Sunrise	6:34am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:27pm	Low	8:43am
	Moon	0%	High	11:01pm
2.7	Sunrise	6:33am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:28pm	Low	8:48am
	Moon	3%	High	11:34pm
2.8	Sunrise	6:32am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:28pm	Low	8:45am
	Moon	7%		
2.9	Sunrise	6:31am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:29pm	High	12:13am/3:55pm
	Moon	13%	Low	3:55pm/8:54pm
2.10	Sunrise	6:31am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:30pm	High	1:10am/3:16pm
	Moon	20%	Low	7:47am/11:52pm
2.11	Sunrise	6:30am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:31pm	High	3:17pm
	Moon	28%		
2.12	Sunrise	6:29am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:32pm	Low	1:30am
	Moon	38%	High	3:43pm
2.13	Sunrise	6:28am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:32pm	Low	2:38am
	Moon	48%	High	4:27pm

Stage > Upcoming Stage Shows

THURSDAY, JAN. 31

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "DANCING LESSONS"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

Adam Silorey appears in Emerald Coast Theatre Company's DANCING LESSONS Jan. 31-Feb. 3 at Grand Boulevard in Miramar Beach.

A comedy with humor and heart, *Dancing Lessons* is the story of Ever, a young man with Asperger's syndrome who seeks the tutelage of a Broadway dancer so that he may learn enough moves to survive an awards dinner. **Nathanael Fisher** directs **Adam Silorey** and **Caitie L. Moss** in their ECTC debuts.

Running time is 95 minutes, and the show is recommended for ages 13 and up. Tickets are $30 for adults, $28 for seniors 55-plus, students and military. Purchase online or call 850-684-0323.

FRIDAY, FEB. 1

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "DANCING LESSONS"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org
Tickets are $30 for adults, $28 for seniors 55-plus, students and military. Purchase online or call 850-684-0323.

SATURDAY, FEB. 2

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "DANCING LESSONS"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org
Tickets are $30 for adults, $28 for seniors 55-plus, students and military. Purchase online or call 850-684-0323.

SUNDAY, FEB. 3

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "DANCING LESSONS"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 6 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org
Tickets are $30 for adults, $28 for seniors 55-plus, students and military. Purchase online or call 850-684-0323.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6

AN EVENING WITH THOM GOSSOM
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

Thom Gossum (far left) kicks off the ECTC Storyteller series Feb. 6, and that third guy over looks plenty familiar…

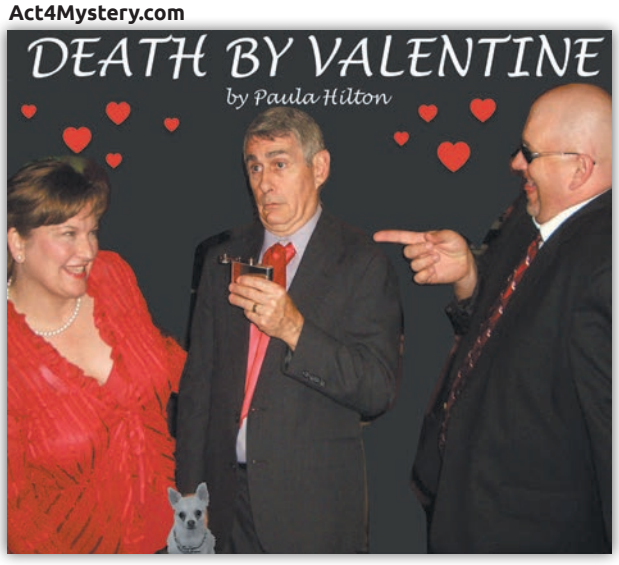
Emerald Coast Theatre Company kicks off its Storyteller Series with celebrated actor, athlete and author **Thom Gossum** (*Fight Club, NYPD Blue*). Tickets are $25.

FRIDAY, FEB. 8

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS "THE MARVELOUS VEGAS COMEDY CLUB"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, Cocktails at 7 PM, Show at 8
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org
A one-night-only exclusive benefit that transforms ECTC's performance space into a swanky Vegas-style lounge. Hosted by comedian **Holly Trolley-Bauer** and featuring **Frank Sinatra & Friends** from Atlanta, a tribute act featuring **Patrick Sallaruio** (Frank), **Mark Phillips** (Dean Martin), and **Allan Wiltshire** (Sammy Davis Jr.). Tickets start at $65, with "High Roller" tickets available. Dapper 1950s-era dress is encouraged.

SATURDAY, FEB. 16

ACT4MYSTERY'S "DEATH BY VALENTINE"
Samuel's Roadhouse, Crestview, Seating at 6 PM, Dinner and Show at 6:30
Act4Mystery.com



Cynthia Bergquist, Joe Chase and Jim Downum in Act4Mystery's DEATH BY VALENTINE.

Paula Hilton and her award-winning troupe present a Valentine's family comedy with plenty of twists and turns. With **Tracy Baldwin, Cynthia Bergquist, Joe Chase, Jim Downum, Britany Sanchez** and *Beachcomber's* own **Chris Manson.** Cost for dinner and show is $38 and includes tax and gratuity. VIP packages available. Call 850-862-2885 for more info.

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ecwildliferefuge.com

Fruit Liqueurs: Always in Season

By Bruce Collier

If you browse liquor stores like I do—constantly telling helpful staff that you're *just looking*, and meaning it—you might find yourself drawn to the liqueurs, your eye pulled by the array of colors. And none are more colorful than those of fruit liqueurs.

"Liqueurs" are different from "liquors." Here's how the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) defines "liqueurs" (to add confusion, they're also called "cordials" in parts of the country):

27 CFR 5.22 The Standards of identity: (h)Class 8; cordials and liqueurs. Cordials and liqueurs are products obtained by mixing or redistilling distilled spirits with or over fruits, flowers, plants, or pure juices therefrom, or other natural flavoring materials, or with extracts derived from infusions, percolation, or maceration of such materials, and containing sugar, dextrose, or levulose, or a combination thereof, in an amount not less than 2 1/2 percent by weight of the finished product.

Sexy, right? These Class 8 beverages incorporate every known flavor on earth—chocolate, coffee, butterscotch, nuts, herbs, spices…and fruits, all kinds. I love fruit, and if I can drink mine, so much the better.

Here are six liqueurs I sampled. Four are available locally, two I bought on a trip to New York last Thanksgiving.

Clear Creek Loganberry (36.18 proof, 18.09 % ABV)
$22.99 for 375 ml.
USA
Loganberry is a hybrid of raspberry and blackberry. The berries are macerated in clear fruit brandy. The liqueur is dark, blackish purple, opaque. Heady, rich perfumy scent, with traces of plum and vanilla, crushed ripe fruit. Full bodied, sweet and oily, mouth-filling, but with a tart finish that calls for seconds. The makers suggest it be drunk neat or served as an ice cream topping. It's a true berry experience, like a homemade preserves but not overly sweet.

Thatcher's Organic Blood Orange (30 proof, 15% ABV)
$21.99 for 750 ml.
USA
Distilled in Michigan by Temperance Distilling. Orange pink color. Scent is orange peel and pith, perfumy, sharp and bittersweet. Light and very thin-bodied, like juice. The citrus peel/pith flavor predominates, with a short, floral and pithy finish. Not really a sipping drink, but would be good for blending in cocktails or highballs—Old Fashioned, or with tonic or club soda. Almost a flavoring agent.

Mandarine Napoleon Liqueur (76 proof, 38% ABV)
$35.99 for 750 ml.
France
Macerations of both fresh and dried mandarins, reportedly flavored with green tea, clover, coriander, cumin, and 20 botanicals. Tangerine and spices, Cognac base. Scent is tangerine peel and pepper, warm spices. Tastes similar to Grand Marnier, but spicier, strong tangerine/orange, anise, pepper, candied orange peel like marmalade. Long finish, full bodied. Good on its own or mixed with rye or rum in a streamlined Old Fashioned with a dash of sour orange juice (no need for sugar or bitters), or with club soda and lemon twist in a long drink.

Pama Pomegranate (34 proof, 17% ABV)
$24.99 for 750 ml.
USA
Pomegranate juice with vodka and tequila base. Color in glass—blood orange red. Tart citrusy scent. Bracing, sweet-tart taste, hits the tongue, with a little bit of heat. Cranberry, blood orange notes, very citrusy. Light bodied, with pithy, slightly bitter finish. Good with club soda, or in a Negroni (1 oz. gin, 1 oz. sweet vermouth, 1 oz. Pama on ice) in place of Campari.

Lejay Creme de cassis (36 proof, 18% ABV)
$19.99 for 375 ml.
France
From Dijon. Dark, opaque almost blue color in glass. Fruit and vegetal scent. The taste is rich and full-bodied dark berry, slightly syrupy, with tart followed by sweet. Hint of herb and vanilla. Use a few drops of this in white wine (Kir) or champagne (Kir Royale), a traditional aperitif in France.

Luxardo Sangue Morlacco (60 proof, 30% ABV)
$23.99 for 750 ml.
Italy
Luxardo also makes maraschino cocktail cherries in syrup—world's best ice cream topping—and a maraschino liqueur. Sangue Morlacco means "blood of the Morlaccos," a warrior nation that fought the Turks for Venice. The scent is cherry syrup, like in Cherry Coke. The taste is more grown-up, dark cherry, sweet but with a spicy edge, full-bodied and slightly oily. Try 1/2 to one ounce of Sangue with two ounces of scotch, over ice with a lemon twist. It's called a Highlander, and I made them with Loch Lomond single grain (barley), single-malt Glenmorangie and Oban, and Grant's Family Reserve. I preferred Loch Lomond, but the peatier Grant's also goes well with the deep cherry.

Bring on the Celebrity Winemakers...and the Wine

The first round of featured winemakers and distillers has been announced for the 2019 ***South Walton Beaches Wine & Food Festival,*** happening **April 25-28** in Grand Boulevard's Town Center. The festival is known for attracting top winemakers and master distillers from around the world, and festival attendees can meet these renowned winemakers and industry experts to discuss their wines and spirits, while tasting them.

The festival once again has winemakers representing wineries from the globe's most notable wine regions. Wines from the Oregon Wine Country will be featured in the newly redesigned Culinary Village. Leading the lineup: Erik Kramer, the winemaker from Willakenzie Estates; and Eugenia Keegan with Gran Moraine, among the finest wineries in Oregon. Jackson Family Wines will be showcased, making this a stunning presentation of the best Oregon has to offer.

With more than 40 years in the world of winemaking, Ms. Keegan, general manager of Gran Moraine, is a renowned winemaking consultant. In a special seminar, Ms. Keegan will lead a panel discussion featuring Oregon winemakers, including Erik Kramer of Willakenzie. "The Origin and Evolution of Oregon Wines" explores the ever-changing landscape of some of the most impressive wines in the world.

Each year Grand Boulevard becomes the epicenter of the wine world during South Walton Beaches Wine and Food Festival.

One of the most influential operatives in the history of whisky making will make a rare appearance this year's festival. The venerable Bill Samuels Jr. of Maker's Mark will present his premium whiskey and conduct a once-in-a-lifetime seminar. During "From Kentucky Whisky Pioneers to Iconic Industry Transformers – the Maker's Mark Way" Mr. Samuels will tell the story of how Maker's Mark began with one family's quest to create a bourbon they enjoyed drinking and sharing with friends and how, in 1953, it changed an industry.

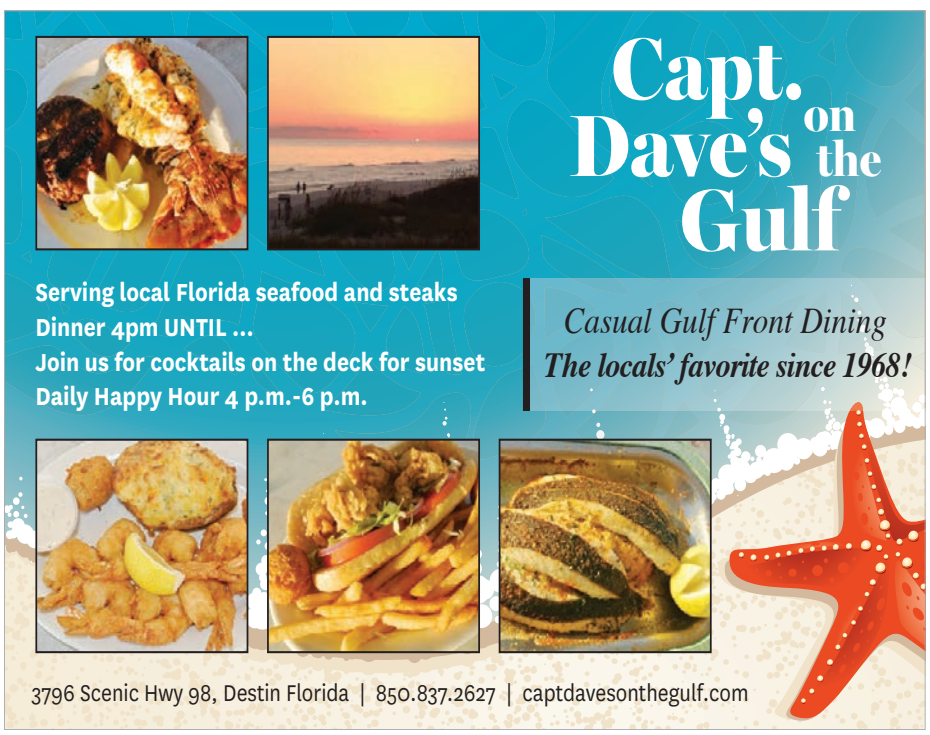
Mr. Samuels turned his parents' little company into an icon and helped create a more flavorful version of their bourbon. Along the way, he rewrote the rules of marketing and set Kentucky's bourbon industry on a path to growth and success.

In a repeat of last year's standing room only seminar, cheese expert and educator Michael Landis of Intitut du Fromage presents "The Perfect Pair(ing)." Enjoy tantalizing pairings of award-winning cheeses, meats and more to perfectly pair with wine. As the director of education for the Institut du Fromage, Mr. Landis has been teaching food and beverage pairings for more than 20 years. He is an American Cheese Society Certified Cheese Professional and authorized Educator, Court of Master Sommelier, certified Cicerone beer server and was inducted into the International Guilde des Fromages in 2011. Enjoy selected wines poured to compliment the cheeses and meats.

Besides a redesigned Culinary Village and a new Tasting Seminar tent, back by popular demand is the Rosé All-Day walkabout, where Rosés from around the world can be tasted and compared. The walk-about is presented by ResortQuest by Wyndham Vacation Rentals and is an all-pink salute, featuring photo-worthy backdrops and pink swag throughout.

Tickets are now on sale now. To purchase, visit **www.SoWalWine.com.**

- Stacey Brady



Restaurant Guide

If your favorite restaurant isn't listed here, let us know by dropping an email to us at **chris@beachcomberdestin.com!**

AMERICAN

CHARLIE'S BURGER BAR Destin's first true burger bar has it all - Burgers, Bourbon and Beer! Charlie's has a selection of 17 different burgers from lamb, Black Angus, wild boar, bison, even Ostrich. If you don't want one of the already built burgers, make your own. Select the bun you would like, than the protein, pick your cheese and your sides. The soon to be famous deep fried pickles are to die for. Or live a little and go for Charlie's Funky Fries topped with different types of cheeses. Happy hour daily from 3-6 PM Open at 3 PM Mon.-Fri. and 11 AM Saturday and Sunday. $3-32, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex, 850-424-7695. **www.CharliesBurgerBar.com.**

RESTAURANT PARADIS Nestled in the beautiful coastal town of Rosemary Beach, you'll find this hidden gem that loyal customers like to call home. Evoking a warm neighborhood feel, the dining area features an understated wine country elegance. Open for dinner beginning at 5 PM, Paradis is committed to serving fresh seasonal ingredients, which celebrate local produce and an abundance of fresh Gulf seafood, along with prime steaks and fine wines. Paradis welcomes wedding receptions, rehearsal dinners, and all celebrations, both intimate and large. Come join us! Located at 82 S Barrett Square, Rosemary Beach. Call 850-534-0400 or visit **www.restaurantparadis.com**.

ASIAN

LIN'S ASIAN CUISINE Enjoy carefully prepared and artfully served Chinese and Southeast Asian dishes in a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere. Chicken, beef, pork, duck, fish and shellfish are cooked to suit most tastes, and Lin's offers your favorites—General Tso's chicken, Mongolian beef, pad thai, lo mein and kung pao, among many others. Beer and wine. $2-15. 130 Scenic Gulf Dr. #5B, Miramar Beach, 850-424-5888.

BAKERIES

CAKEMASTER'S BAKERY II Quality baked goods since 1971, made from scratch on the premises by a fourth generation baker. Decorated cakes for all occasions. New Sweet Expressions cake collection. Breakfast pastries—Danish (cheese, pecan, fruit), assorted coffee cakes, cinnamon rolls, crumb cake, strudel, bienstich, pecan crispies. Delicious delights—brownies, ragulah, cream fingers, biscotti, cookies (wedding, sugar, chocolate chip, raisin, fruit bars, holiday) and more. Refrigerated desserts—éclairs, Boston cream pie, cheesecake, black forest cake, Italian rum cake, Napoleons, French creampuffs and more. Come on by and see us. 105 Beach Drive Suite A-3, Fort Walton Beach (behind Pizza Hut on Racetrack Road), 850-862-4911. Closed Mondays.

BARBEQUE

BACK BEACH BARBECUE offers a delicious yet refined menu highlighted by 12-hour slow cooked meats, simple homemade sides, gluten-free options and four sauces made special in house. At the center of attention are the restaurant's two wood fired pits, "Smokey" and "The Bandit," easily viewed and smelled from the covered patio, outdoor patio or via two garage doors which give the restaurant a true open-air feel. Back Beach Barbecue also offers catering for private and corporate events, delivery and a mobile food truck. The restaurant is open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, beginning at 6:30 AM. Located at 19714 Panama City Beach Parkway, Panama City Beach. Call 850-249-0822 or visit **www.backbeachbarbecue.com**.

LILLIE'S Q Award-winning on the national level barbecue restaurant located at 9848 Hwy. 98 W., Miramar Beach, approximately seven miles east of the Mid Bay Bridge. We offer barbecue that represents all areas of the U.S., such as pulled pork, baby back ribs, smoked chicken breast and beef tri-tip (sliced sirloin). All meat products are slow smoked using natural wood and lump charcoal. Seven sauce choices with delicious side orders and the best banana pudding in the Panhandle. We offer a wrap around porch. No inside seating. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11 AM-6 PM Call ahead orders welcomed! 850-654-3911.

BREAKFAST & MORE

ASIAGO'S SKILLET There's no place like it. Open daily from midnight till noon. Try your hand at our one-of-a-kind Crab Cake Benny, mouth watering Bananas Foster French Toast or our classic American Breakfast. We've got something for everyone. Plus, don't miss out on our Build Your Own Bloody Mary Bar, complete with infused vodkas, every weekend. Truly breakfast at its best. 110 Amberjack Drive, Okaloosa Island, 850-586-7998. **www.facebook.com/asiago.skillet**.

BLUE COLLAR CAFE Made to order breakfast and lunch served all day. House made bagels. Full coffee bar with Maas coffee and espresso roasted at the cafe. Home of the famous BOB (breakfast on a bagel) and New York style lox and house-mixed cream cheese. Salads and sides, homemade scones and sweets. Open Mon.-Fri., 7:30 AM-2:30 PM; Saturdays, 8 AM-2 PM 104 Hollywood Blvd. SW, Fort Walton Beach.

CAMILLE'S CAFE Start your day with coffee and breakfast. We feature fluffy eggs, cinnamon rolls, apple pie muffins, fresh juice and smoothies. For lunch, enjoy our fresh caught tuna salad on an Asiago cheese bagel, Sriracha turkey sandwich or Mediterranean chicken salad sandwich. Plus all day Bloody Marys, mimosas, beer, and daiquiris made with fresh-squeezed juice. Join our party! 2931 Scenic Highway 98, Destin, 850-337-8860.

GRITS AND GRIND In 2011, a love affair between Memphis and the NBA Grizzlies began. With a Grit and Grind style of basketball, this southern team exemplifies hard work. Our owners bring the same commitment to hard work and fresh food at Grits & Grind, a breakfast establishment located in Seacrest Beach. We serve up a great southern breakfast and more, with friendly service in a fun atmosphere. Open daily, 7-11 AM. 10343 E Co. Hwy. 30A, Seacrest Beach, 850-231-4021. **gritsandgrindbreakfast.com**.

THE LOCAL MARKET Open 7 AM-3 PM daily. Fresh pressed juices, coffee, breakfast, gourmet sandwiches, homemade ice cream and more. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-460-8979.

THE PANCAKERY Serving breakfast and lunch daily from 7 AM - 2 PM Featuring build your own pancakes and omelettes! Waffles, French Toast, crepes, benedicts, bananas foster and all traditional breakfast items. Also, lunch menu

includes sandwiches, burgers, salads, wraps, and loaded potatoes. Now serving bloody marys, mimosas and cold beer. 960 Hwy 98 East, Suite 104, Destin. 850-269-0791.

BURGERS

AL'S BEACH CLUB & BURGER BAR Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-226-4100. **ALSBEACHCLUB.COM**

CHARLIE'S BURGER BAR Burgers, bourbon and beer. Pick from 18 burgers or build your own. Over 50 beers and bourbons, funky French fries, milk shakes for all ages. Located at 2 Harbor Blvd. in HarborWalk Village's Crab Island Cantina Complex, Destin, 850-424-7695.

CASUAL DINING

GRAFFITI & THE FUNKY BLUES SHACK Destin, 850-424-6650. **GraffitiFBS.com**

COFFEE SHOPS

MAAS COFFEE ROASTERS Fresh roasted beans of origin, roasted in different profiles. Specialty coffee roasters for over 10 years. "Once you go Maas, you'll never go 'Bucks!" Fresh made pastries and bagels, FREE WiFi. Open Mon.-Sat., 8 AM-6 PM; Sundays, 9 AM-4 PM 150 Miracle Strip Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, across from the Indian Temple Mound Museum. 850-585-0496.

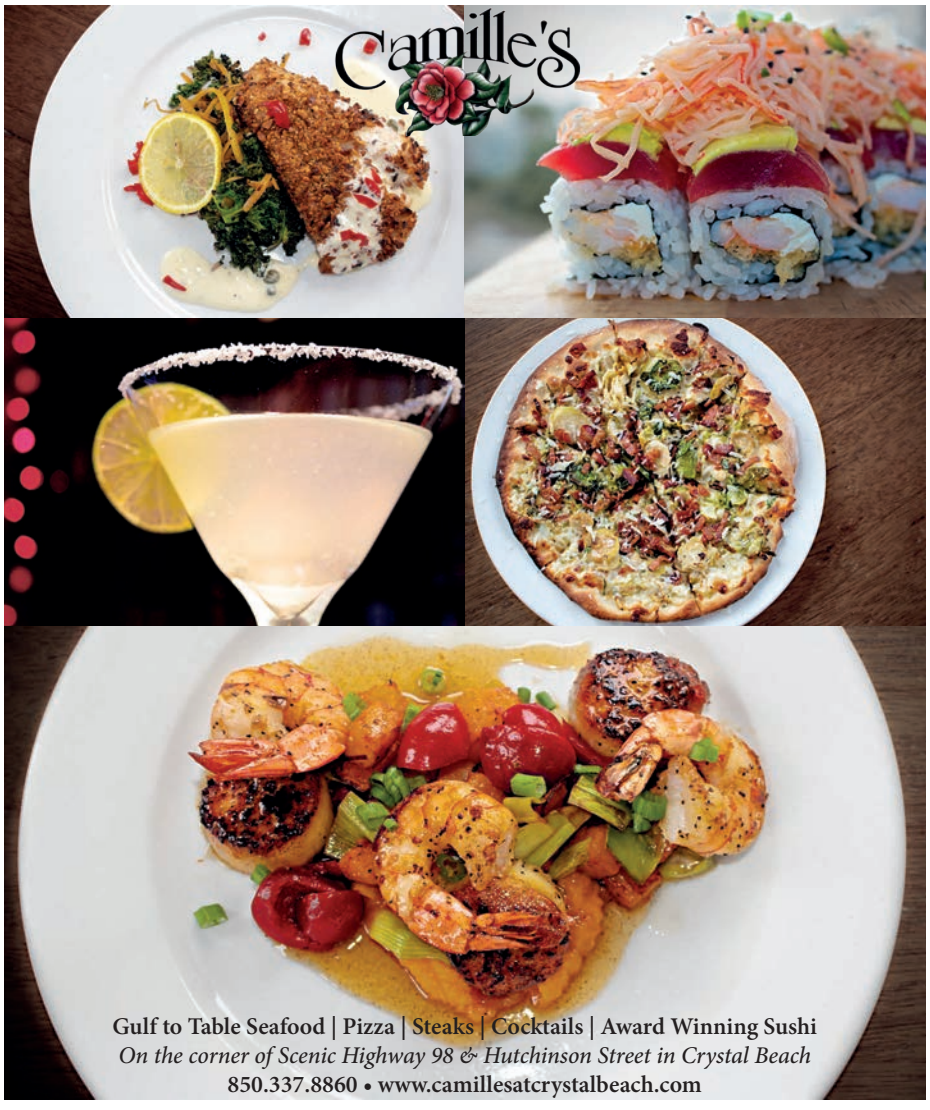
CONTEMPORARY

LOUIS LOUIS Louis Louis is another dining hit. This "sister" restaurant to the famous Red Bar offers a short but all-star menu of fish, chicken, pork, crab cakes and pasta entrees, served in fat portions by a friendly staff. Do whatever you have to do, but don't skip dessert. Colorful décor, comfy tables, full bar, $5-25. 35 Mussett Bayou Rd., Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-1500.

DINNER & A SHOW

GRAFFITI & THE FUNKY BLUES SHACK If you're looking for something different in town for the whole family, come enjoy Graffiti & The Funky Blues Shack. We've been around for 20-plus years doing what we do best – FOOD + MUSIC! Our dishes are tried and true and are sure to satisfy everyone in your group. Our menu showcases a little bit of everything. We offer some of the best gourmet pizzas and pastas in town. We also prepare fresh caught Gulf seafood and perfectly grilled filets. Vegetarian? No worries, we've got you covered, too. While enjoying your delectable meal, you will also experience listening or boogieing to some of the best local and out-of-town talent. We have Jazz Jams, Blues Jams, and everything in between. We weren't voted Best Live Music Venue three years in a row for nothing! Summer music schedule is seven days a week—Sun.-Thu., 7-10 PM and Fri. and Sat., 8 PM until… We have a full bar and offer an early Happy Hour from 4 to 7 PM, as well as a late night Happy Hour Friday and Saturday (check website for time). Located at 34902 Emerald Coast Parkway in Destin. For reservations, call 850-424-6650. Full menu and music schedule at **GraffitiFBS.com.**

REDD'S FUELING STATION a/k/a Redd's Pub N Song, specializes in great food and music. The menu is simple but delicious, including slow cooked beef brisket, sweet and spicy babybacks and fried green tomato BLTs. **Redd the Singing Bartender** sings as she bartends, hosts and serves on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays—customers can participate by requesting songs for tips. Redd offers over 350 songs to choose from. Wednesday is Open Mic Night, the longest running open mic on 30A with musicians of all levels and ages welcome. We have the sound system, you bring your instrument and your talent. Friday nights are live music. Redd likes to promote local musicians and several popular local bands had their first gigs here, including the Luke Langford Band and Mose Wilson and the Delta Twang. Dinner reservations for four or more are highly recommended. Located at 2320 West County Highway 30A in Blue Mountain Beach. Call 850-325-0252 for information and reservations. Visit **www.reddsfuel.com** and find **Redd's Pub N Song** on Facebook.



ECLECTIC

CAFÉ THIRTY-A Cafe Thirty-A has been here a while. Finding out why can be a delicious experience. A nightly-changing menu offers steaks, chicken, pork, lamb, and local seafood elegantly prepared with imaginative sauces and sides, courteously served in a beautiful beach-house atmosphere. Lobster bisque, stone crab claws, seasonal fish and shellfish, and wood oven-baked pizzas. Full bar. $8-36. 3899 E. Scenic Highway 30-A, Seagrove Beach, 850-231-2166.

GRAFFITI & THE FUNKY BLUES SHACK Destin, 850-424-6650. **GraffitiFBS.com**

THE RED BAR The place to go—and say you went—in Grayton Beach. The Red Bar offers breakfast, lunch and dinner, with a short but expertly prepared menu of sandwiches, soup and salads for lunch, chicken, local fish, pasta and crab cakes for dinner. The apple dumpling will haunt you, in a good way. Live music, and more local color than you'll know what to do with. Full bar, $4-21. 70 Hotz Avenue, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008. **www.theredbar.com.**

FINE DINING

EDWARD'S FINE FOOD AND WINE Relax, you're at Edward's. Open everyday from 5 PM until everyone is full. Courtyard and indoor seating available. Join us at the chef's counter, and watch as the team prepares gourmet dishes to order. We love children, so for safety and as a courtesy to others, children must remain seated with their parents. We operate on a first come first serve and do not take reservations. We look forward to serving you. 66 Main Street, Rosemary Beach, 850-231-0550. **Edwards30a.com**.

GERMAN/AMERICAN

FOKKERS PUB German sausages and homemade schnitzels go great with German beer! Brick oven pizza, grilled or fried wings, burgers, sandwiches and salad bar – there's something for everyone! Live music Wednesdays and Fridays. Located at 215 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE Unit #1 in Downtown Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-6666.

HEALTHY DINING

GEORGE'S AT ALYS BEACH Established in 2008, George's has offered regional coastal fare infused with global flavors to the quaint town of Alys Beach. We craft all of our dishes using locally sourced organic produce and the freshest seafood available, and present each with a generous helping of love. Our dishes fall into two categories—Behave and Misbehave. The Behave section features organic, spa-inspired dishes, while the Misbehave side touts traditional beach fare like fried seafood baskets and po-boys. The menu is rounded out with a thoughtfully curated wine list and a selection of decadent desserts. Our charming beach cottage provides the perfect backdrop for a casual dinner with friends and family. Dine indoors in our airy yet cozy dining room, or soak in the beautiful Florida sunshine on our front deck or screened porches. Open 11 AM-3 PM and 5-9 PM 30 Castle Harbour Dr., Panama City Beach, 850-641-0017, **georgesatalysbeach.net.**

ITALIAN

CIAO ITALIA BISTRO Dine inside or outside at Guglielmo Ianni's latest bistro. The big menu offers classic Italian appetizers like bruschetta, caprese and calamari, and a range of pasta, chicken, meat, fish and shellfish entrees—puttanesca, Bolognese, parmigiana, pescatore, and some house originals. Daily specials, family dining options, comfortable atmosphere and friendly service. Full bar. Open Monday through Saturday, 5-10 PM 985 U.S. 98 East, Suite F, Destin, 850-842-4677.

GRAFFITI & THE FUNKY BLUES SHACK Destin, 850-424-6650. **GraffitiFBS.com**

TUSCANY ITALIAN BISTRO Authentic Italian cuisine includes pasta, freshest seafood, tender veal and more. A true taste of Italy--beautiful Italian decor with handpainted murals. Live Entertainment by Eclipse (Don and Amanda), Special Happy Hour from 5 to 8 PM 36178 Emerald Coast Pkwy. Next to City Market in Destin. 850-650-2451.

LATIN / MEXICAN

BUD & ALLEY'S TACO BAR Shake the sand off your feet, choose a colorful table, and get ready to experience South of the Border favorites, Florida-style. Baja fish tacos, homemade guacamole, burritos, top shelf margaritas, and ice cold cerveza hit the spot for lunch or dinner. Open daily, 11 AM-9 PM 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-4781. **BudAndAlleys.com.**

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA Traditional and not so traditional Mexican and Latin food, featuring snapper enchiladas, grouper tacos, and award-winning seafood chorizo gumbo. Great selection of seafood dishes and Black Angus steaks, and all are big portions so make sure you're hungry. Spacious dining area, multiple bars, even a fountain, plus the view of Destin Bridge and the East Pass. Full bar, wide choice of margaritas and beers, $4-28, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex. 850-424-7417. **www.CrabIslandCantina.com.**

LA COCINA is a Latin-inspired restaurant featuring both specialty dishes with a Latin flair as well as classic Tex-Mex cuisine. Nestled between Rosemary Beach and Alys Beach (in Seacrest Beach), the friendly staff offers some of the best drinks along 30A, including house-made mojitos, sangria, and a selection of fresh-squeezed lime margaritas. La Cocina is always voted as one of South Walton's hot spots for Mexican cuisine. All dishes are prepared from scratch using the freshest ingredients available. Open daily for lunch, 11:30 AM-3 PM, dinner from 5 to 9 PM. Seacrest Beach, 850-231-4021.

Restaurant Guide

LA PAZ offers just about anything you'd want from a Mexican-Southwestern kitchen, including tamales, tacos, fajitas, burritos, enchiladas and quesadillas, plus a thoughtfully prepared list of grilled local fish and shellfish and imaginative spins on classics. Daily dinner specials, full bar. $15-25. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-837-2247. **www.lapazdestin.com.**

PEPITO'S MEXICAN GRILL An enormous menu, plenty of room, and a friendly staff make Pepito's a good bet for a Mexican snack or feast. Traditional and unusual fare includes carnitas, enchiladas, fajitas, vegetarian dishes, steaks and seafood specialties. $4-19. 757 Harbor Blvd, Destin, 650-7734. Additional locations in Bluewater Bay and Fort Walton Beach. **www.mypepitos.com**.

ROCKIN TACOS GRILL & TEQUILA BAR Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-226-8226. **ROCKINTACOS.COM**

PIZZA & PASTA

BUD & ALLEY'S PIZZA BAR + TRATTORIA Savor artisan cheese, fresh salad, antipasto dishes, homemade soups, seasonal vegetables, hearty pastas and wood-fired pizza. Experience these authentic flavors in the courtyard, fireside at the bar, or on the veranda overlooking the Gulf. Open daily for lunch and dinner, 11 AM-9 PM 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-3113. **BudAndAlleysPizzaBar.com.**

GRAFFITI & THE FUNKY BLUES SHACK Destin, 850-424-6650. **GraffitiFBS.com**

MELLOW MUSHROOM PIZZA BAKERY Widely, wildly assorted menu of stone baked pizzas, hoagies, calzones, salads, and specialty items. Pizzas traditional and exotic include pesto, jerk chicken, gourmet white, and Magical Mystery Tour. Colorful psychedelic décor and friendly service. $4-25. 960 Hwy 98E, Sunsations Plaza, Destin, 650-6420.

SEAFOOD

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF A tradition since 1977, Capt. Dave's is a go-to place for the kind of seafood that made this area famous. A time-tested selection of fried, grilled, and broiled fish, shellfish, steaks and chicken, with house and seasonal specialties. Full bar. $5-25. 3796 Scenic Hwy 98, Destin, 850-837-2627.

THE CRAB TRAP SEAFOOD AND OYSTER BAR Destin, 850-654-2722. **CRABTRAPFLORIDA.COM**

THE CRAB TRAP SEAFOOD AND OYSTER BAR Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-301-0959. **CRABTRAPFLORIDA.COM**

DEWEY DESTIN'S HARBORSIDE RESTAURANT The classics, done right. Shrimp, crab, tuna, grouper, scallops, oysters and some land-based items, served fried, grilled, or steamed in most conceivable combinations. Family-friendly, accommodating staff. Nightly specials, full bar. Open daily at 11 AM 202 Harbor Boulevard, Destin, 850-837-7525.

DEWEY DESTIN'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT Get fed with the real locals on Calhoun. Dine inside or out on the water, choosing from grilled and fried local fish and shellfish. Oysters, scallops, shrimp, crab, yellowfin and daily catch served in baskets, on platters or on sandwiches with gumbo, apps and salads that all go well with the laid-back setting. Beer and wine. Open daily at 11 AM 9 Calhoun Avenue, Destin, 850-837-7575.

FLOYD'S SHRIMP HOUSE Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-243-2232. **FLOYDSSHRIMPHOUSE.COM**

GRANDE VISTA BAR & GRILL Located in the Emerald Grande. Open daily 7 AM-9 PM for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Grande Vista Bar & Grill has delicious local seafood, signature sandwiches and mouth-watering burgers. Enjoy casual or business lunch inside or poolside overlooking the Destin Harbor. Enjoy special drink prices inside or outside at our poolside bar. The view from our pool deck is simply breathtaking. Half-priced drinks daily, 4-6 PM 10 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8100 x1550. **info@emeraldgrande.com.**

HARBOR DOCKS on the historic Destin Harbor has been serving simply prepared Gulf to table seafood from its own market since 1979. Offering hearty breakfasts, a lunch menu featuring blue plate specials alongside authentic Thai dishes, and the area's best sushi by world famous Chef Yoshie Eddings. In addition to traditional Gulf seafood dishes, there is something for everyone. 538 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-2506. **harbordocks.com.**

HARRY T'S LIGHTHOUSE Located in HarborWalk Village right on the beautiful Destin Harbor, Harry T's has something for all ages! With entrees ranging from fresh local seafood to our gourmet hamburgers, there's something for everyone! Voted Best Place to Watch the Sunset four years in a row, our outside deck offers an unparalleled view of the Destin Harbor. Mega Happy Hour Mon.-Fri. 11 AM-7 PM 46 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-654-4800. **info@harryts.co.**

LOBSTER TAIL Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-833-3016. **THELOBSTERTAIL.COM**

OLD BAY STEAMER Wide variety of fresh steamed seafood served in every imaginable combination. Choose from crab, shrimp, lobster, oysters, clams, mussels, and fresh catch of the day. Pasta and steak/seafood pairings also offered. Friendly, efficient service. Open daily for dinner, with full bar. $4-27, 102 Santa Rosa Blvd., Okaloosa Island, 664-2795.

ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK Located on the water. The Crab Shack serves crab, shrimp, oysters, mussels, scallops and assorted local fish in an informal and family-friendly atmosphere. Crab steamer buckets, fried seafood baskets, sandwiches and po-boys, and some land-based items. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Daily specials, inside and outside dining. Full bar. $3-45. 104 Miracle Strip Pkwy., Fort Walton Beach. 850-664-0345.

POMPANO JOE'S Come on in for some fun and fresh seafood with a very exciting flavor. Try our famous reggae rolls and our garlic crusted grouper! Lunch and dinner. Open daily from 11 AM 2237 Scenic Gulf Highway, Destin. Take Holiday Road South, turn right on scenic Hwy.

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THE LOCAL MARKET

IN-HOUSE BRINED DELI MEATS
BREAKFAST ALL DAY • SMOOTHIES
FRESH PRESSED JUICES • BEER • WINE
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FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM @LOCALMARKETDESTIN
WWW.LOCALMARKETDESTIN.COM

98, drive down about two blocks, and you'll find us on the left side. **www.pompano-joes.com**. 850-837-2224.

SALTWATER GRILL We provide a relaxing, casual atmosphere designed to heighten the enjoyment of our customers' dining experience. Most of our tables have entertaining views of a 25,000-gallon aquarium filled with dozens of exotic fish. Our Gulf fresh seafood and choice steaks are amazing. We welcome you to join us. Open daily—Sun.-Thu., 4-10 PM, Fri.-Sat., 4-11 PM. Panama City Beach, 850-230-2739.

STINKY'S FISH CAMP Seafood is king at this informal Santa Rosa Beach eatery. Oysters "all ways," crawfish pie, catfish or frog legs meuniere, and gumbo are just a few of the Louisiana-inspired dishes. Service is friendly and attentive. Open daily 11 AM to 10 PM Serving brunch on Sunday from 10 AM to 3 PM Beer, wine and live music at Stinky's Bait Shack from 6 to 9 PM 5960 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-3053.

THE SURF HUT Miramar Beach, 850-460-7750. **SURFHUTDESTIN.COM**

STEAKS

MCGUIRE'S IRISH PUB OF DESTIN One of America's Great Steak Houses. Feasting, Imbibery and Debauchery. We are known for great food, exceptional service, our own craft brewed beers, and fun live entertainment. Open LATE, from 11 AM to 1:45 AM seven days a week. 33 U.S. 98, Destin, 850-650-0000, **www.mcguiresirishpub.com.**

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE serves the finest aged, corn-fed USDA Prime beef. Broiled in a trademark 1,800° broiler and served on a plate heated to 500 degrees, your steak is presented sizzling hot at your table. Happy hour daily from 5 to 7 PM in any of our three bars, including the new East Bar. We boast an array of private event spaces, our own private billiard room, valet parking, and live entertainment five nights a week from *Billboard*-charting recording artist Michael J Thomas (upon availability). Open seven days a week at 5 PM For reservations, call 850-837-RUTH (7884) or visit **www.RuthsChrisDestin.com.**

SALTWATER GRILL Open 4-10 PM 1100 Hutchinson Blvd., Panama City Beach, 850-230-2739, **saltwatergrillpcb.com.**

SUSHI

JACKACUDAS SEAFOOD & SUSHI is a locally-owned seafood and sushi restaurant overlooking the historic Destin Harbor. The name derives from a famous fishing hole located 34 miles southwest of the Destin Harbor at 30'04.250N and 87'02.125W. Specializing in fresh, locally sourced seafood and products to provide our guests with classic Gulf Coast seafood dishes with New South culinary preparation. Open daily, 11 AM-10 PM 56 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-424-3507. **www.jackacudas.com.**

TAPAS AND WINE

LA CREMA TAPAS AND CHOCOLATE Spanish-inspired tapas restaurant featuring unique tapas and Spanish wines. The European vibe provides a relaxing atmosphere where we encourage guests to share dishes, converse and enjoy Rosemary Beach living. Open 11 AM-9 PM 38 Main St., Rosemary Beach, 850-624-7282, **lacrematapas.com.**

WATERFRONT DINING

BUD & ALLEY'S WATERFRONT RESTAURANT A pioneer of the fish- and farm-to-table movement, with an award-winning menu featuring Gulf Coast classics paired with Southern-style cuisine. The daily Sunset Celebration ritual on the Rooftop Deck overlooking the Gulf has been a tradition for more than 30 years. Open daily for breakfast (8-11 AM), lunch (11 AM-2:30 PM) and dinner (from 5 PM). Hours may vary. 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-5900. **BudAndAlleys.com.**

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA Traditional and not so traditional Mexican and Latin food, featuring snapper enchiladas, grouper tacos, and award-winning seafood chorizo gumbo. Great selection of seafood dishes and Black Angus steaks, and all are big portions so make sure you're hungry. Spacious dining area, multiple bars, even a fountain, plus the view of Destin Bridge and the East Pass. Full bar, wide choice of margaritas and beers, $4-28, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex. 850-424-7417. **www.CrabIslandCantina.com.**

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE From a volcano flowing with Margaritas to suspended airplanes, Margaritaville is more than a restaurant; it's a state of mind. Open daily, 11 AM-10 PM Five O'Clock Somewhere celebration Mon.-Thu., 4-7 PM 76 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-460-7700. **www.margaritavilledestin.com.**

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S DESTIN is located next to the Mid Bay Bridge and Legendary Marine on the Choctawhatchee Bay in beautiful Destin, Florida. A little off the beaten path, but we like a little more room to breathe. Specializing in the BEST Burgers in Paradise, Southern Favorites and Lucy's own GUMBO LOVE! Family friendly! Come by boat, anchor and wade in or call for our boat shuttle. Open daily at 11 AM. Live music nightly. Separate allergy menu. Beach for the kids to play, Fountain of Youth, LuLu's Gift Shop. 850-710-LULU (5858). **www.lulubuffett.com/destin.**

VUE ON 30A showcases one of the best views for dining in all of South Walton. Open to the public and serving lunch, dinner, happy hour and Sunday brunch. Named "Best Restaurant of 2014" by Beachcomber, Vue on 30a offers the ultimate dining experience. Open for Sunday brunch, 10 AM-2 PM; Tue.-Thu.—lounge 3-9 PM, dinner 5-9 PM; Fri.-Sat.—lounge 3-10 PM, dinner 5-10 PM; closed Mondays. Happy hour in the lounge only 3-6 PM. Two for one entrée specials Wed.-Sat., 5-6 PM. 4801 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2305. **www.Vueon30a.com.**

WINE BARS

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ AND WINE BAR in Shalimar is an eclectic restaurant serving lunch and dinner with a varied menu of tapas style plates, flatbreads, Panini, award-winning ZinGouda burger and lasagna at dinnertime, and unique desserts. Our wine list includes wines from around the world. We host fundraising events and are available for any special occasion. Open Mon.-Thu. 11 AM-9 PM, 11 AM-10 PM Fridays, and 5-10 PM Saturdays. 1193 B Eglin Parkway, Shalimar, 850-651-5100. **twistedgrapewinebar.com**

Where to Spend Your Happy Hours in Beachcomberland

If your bar isn't listed here, you need to email **chris@beachcomberdestin.com** *immediately!*

CAMILLE'S AT CRYSTAL BEACH
2931 Scenic Highway 98
Destin
850-337-8860
When: 3-5 PM daily.
Drink Specials: Lots, including Camille's Signature Sangria. Plus a stunning view of the Gulf.

FISHHEADS
HarborWalk Village
Destin
When: 6-8 PM daily.
Drink Specials: $1 off premium drafts and Drink of the Day.

FOKKER'S PUB
215 Miracle Strip Parkway SE Unit #1
Fort Walton Beach
850-244-6666
When: 3-7 PM every day except Tuesday (closed).
Drink Specials: $2 domestic beers, $3 well drinks (Jack, Jim, Bacardi, etc.), $3 house wines, $1 off everything else.

GRAFFITI & THE FUNKY BLUES SHACK
34902 Emerald Coast Parkway
Destin
850-424-6650
GraffitiFBS.com
When: 4-7 PM daily, late night happy hour Friday and Saturday, 10 PM-midnight.

GRANDE VISTA
Emerald Grande, HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-337-8100, ext. 1550
When: 4-6 PM daily.
Drink Specials: All drinks half off (except bottles of wine and Drink Special of the Day), plus specially priced apps.

HARRY T'S
HarborWalk Village
Destin
850-654-4800
When: Mon.-Fri., 11 AM-7 PM—downstairs bar only.
Drink Specials: Half off drinks.

JACKACUDAS
HarborWalk Village
Destin
850-424-3507
When: Monday-Friday, 3-6 PM Sushi bar and bar area only. Bonzai Wednesdays, 6 PM-close with half price sake, house wine, apps and sushi rolls.
Drink Specials: Half-price hot sake carafes, house wine pours, select draft beers and select apps, plus $5 California rolls, spicy krab rolls and crunch salmon rolls.

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE
HarborWalk Village
Destin
850-460-7700
When: Monday-Friday, 10 PM-close.
Drink Specials: $3 14-ounce Bud Light or Landshark draft, $4 Barefoot cabernet and chardonnay, $5 "Who's to Blame" margaritas and "5 O'Clock Somewhere" cocktails.

LA PAZ
950 Gulf Shore Drive
Destin
850-837-2247
When: 4-6 PM daily.
Drink Specials: $5 top shelf Margaritas, FREE chips and salsa.

RESTAURANT PARADIS
82 S Barrett Square
Rosemary Beach
850-534-0400
Drink Specials: Daily from 5 to 6 PM—New Amsterdam Vodka Martinis for $5. Every Tuesday and Thursday from 5 to 7 PM—$5 select martinis and $7 select wines.

SAMMY'S
1224 Santa Rosa Blvd.
Fort Walton Beach
When: Early happy hour, 1-6 PM Late night happy hour, 2-4 AM Never a cover charge for escorted women, military, or restaurant-hotel-bar employees.
Drink Specials: Early happy hour—two for $5 well drinks, $10 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge. Late night happy hour—two for $6 well drinks, $12 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge after 3 AM

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ AND WINE BAR
1193B Eglin Parkway
Shalimar
850-651-5100
When: Monday-Friday, 11 AM-7 PM
Drink Specials: $1 off all Twisted (house) wines.

What Dreams May Come, Plus Happy Valentine's Day!

By Dawn Bright

Dear Dawn,
Recently, one of my friends told me there must be something wrong with me because I keep my inside Christmas decorations up until Valentine's Day. So, is there?
- Diane S., Destin

Keeping decorations up does not mean there's something wrong with you, and I'd question a "friend" who felt the need to tell you something like that. We decorate to make the occasion special and because it reminds us of that special occasion. If you want to be reminded of Christmas until Valentine's Day, so what! Enjoy the decorations and the special feelings you get from them.

If your house is anything like mine, it takes a while to get all those lights and garland strung, so what's the hurry in taking them down? By the way, mine are still up, too!

Dear Dawn,
My girlfriend is always telling me—in detail—about the dreams she has every night, and most of the time I'm in the dreams. I feel bad because I don't remember my dreams, and I can tell she wants me to. I love this girl, so should I make up a dream about her every once in a while to make her feel good?
- John H., Holt

I don't think it's ever a good idea to make anything up, John, especially when you're dealing with someone who you sincerely care about. Not everyone remembers his or her dreams, and it's not something you can force. If it were me, I'd just listen intently to her dream, ask a question or two to show that you really do care about what she's telling you, and then tell her you wish you could remember your dreams. I'll bet if you could, she would certainly be in them!

By the way, if you have a violent dream with her trying to kill you with some kind of sharp object, you really should keep that to yourself. My boyfriend told me about a dream like that recently, and it didn't make me feel special at all. It just made me feel weird. I'd rather hear about sweet puppies or going on a cruise. You should have heard him groaning in his sleep while I supposedly tried to kill him. Thank your lucky stars your girlfriend is having sweet dreams about your loving life together rather than being murdered. I'd take that any day!

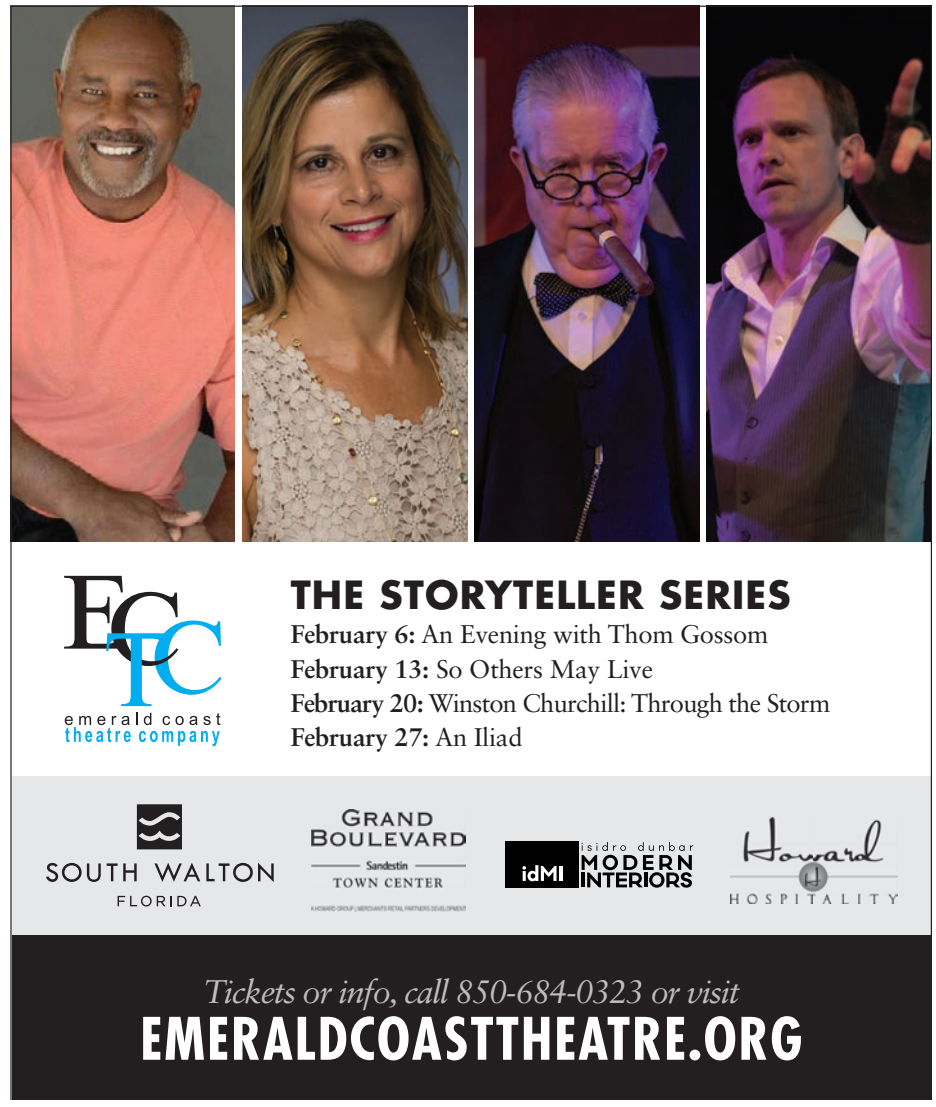
Dear Dawn,
My boyfriend and I have been living together for 10 years. One Valentine's Day, he gave me a ring with a small solitary diamond on it, and then another Valentine's Day, he gave me a diamond band that kind of matched. Together they look like a wedding set. Does wearing this set make me a common law wife?
- Lou Ann W., Fairhope, Alabama

Lou Ann, wearing the two rings together—whether they look like a wedding set or not—does not make you a common law wife. And in Florida, neither does living together for seven years or more. In fact, a common law marriage is not a thing in Florida.

In some states, presenting yourself as a married couple (changing your name, for example) makes it a common law marriage, but not in Florida. So you won't be splitting your property, taking each other's assets or automatically inheriting everything if one of you were to die. And by the way, if you did decide to break up, you wouldn't have to go through a common law divorce either!

But Lou Ann, if you're asking this question because you want to be a married woman, you should probably have a conversation with your long-term boyfriend. And while you're at it, have him increase the size of that small diamond he gave you. After 10 years, I'm sure you deserve it!

Dawn Bright is an eternal optimist. And that's pretty much all you need to know about her. Email your questions to **office@beachcomberdestin.com.**



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Horrorscopes

AQUARIUS
JAN. 21 - FEB. 19

Everything becomes intense. Uranus moves into Taurus in a few months. Intensity is what you want—it'll heighten your enjoyment of every aspect of life. Your roll will feel like a strong surge of MDMA that never ends…there's no coming down for Aquarius. It's all upside.

PISCES
FEB. 20 - MAR. 20

All past mistakes are forgiven. You get on a roll of successes that Tom Brady can't compete with. You shine in all aspects of life. There is a glow about you that brings joy to everyone you meet. You are a champion in everything you attempt. So get busy, get out there, and go get 'em.

ARIES
MAR. 21 - APR. 20

Mars is still in Aries, and your record setting pace of just being awesome continues. As always, you set an example for everyone through your kindness, good humor, intelligence and *joie de vivre* (I don't know what that means, but it's French and sounds cool).

TAURUS
APR. 21 - MAY 21

Surprise surprise. You've suffered enough. Something about the Capricorn new moon and life changes for Taurus. All good things coming your way. Investments, romance, work rewards, health…everything swings positive for Taurus. Fingers crossed that it lasts.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Your life is about to read like a romance novel—a beautiful, sweet, well written novel. Except it's real life! Don't ask me what happened. It's in the stars. Family matters straighten out. Health improves. A love life blooms in the most unexpected way. xoxoxo

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 22

The recent lunar eclipse has you all shook up. FOR THE BETTER! Work becomes rewarding. You receive raises and accolades. Your children get better looking. People applaud you when you walk through the aisles of Target. A remarkable turnaround for Cancer.

LEO
JULY 23 - AUG. 23

You ditch your propensity for broadcasting bad news. Because there is no more bad news for Leos! You move into a beautiful new period. Unexpected money appears. Romance from the past flames up. You look better and feel better, and somehow you manage to get a lot smarter.

VIRGO
AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23

Don't ask me how (ask the stars), but Virgos have turned a major corner. Mars, Venus and Mercury enter your sign, and you become a beautiful example of humanity. Your capacity for compassion is enormous. You do good works. Your love life flourishes. You have a positive energy you've never had before.

LIBRA
SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23

It's the end of the road for Libras. The streak is over. The downfall of being undefeated is that when the run is finished, the denouement is brutal. You've done nothing wrong, and there is nothing you can do. It's the stars, my friend, and they are very angry.

SCORPIO
OCT. 24 - NOV. 22

Whatever it is you want, whatever it is you need…you got it! Have big dreams, reach for the sky—all is within your power. You can't help but be positive—nothing but goodness and reward heading your way. Breathe deep, relax and enjoy your successes on all fronts.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV. 23 - DEC. 21

It's all about love and happiness. The Jupiter retrograde won't affect you because your karma is so strong you are in total control. Matters involving love, money and success of all kinds follow you around like a rescue puppy.

CAPRICORN
DEC. 22 - JAN. 20

Dreams aren't even dreams anymore. They all come true! So sleep tight and think lovely thoughts. Your ruler is Saturn, and he must be in good spirits. You are in for the ride of your life.

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